

## Falling pound increases pressure for pay curbs

Selling on major financial centres yesterday the pound to an all time low. On the Exchange share prices were also in retreat. Weakness in financial markets is putting increasing pressure on the Government to take action to arrest inflation.

## Shares at lowest level since March

Government's timetable for an acceptable anti-inflation strategy, with the trade union under attack yesterday as the pound fell to its lowest level since March. A fresh selling on the major financial centres in Europe and the United States drove sterling to a new all-time "low". Floating devaluation, base-rate of December 27.6 per cent, a weakening of the pound, the pound has now floated down to 255.6.

Stock Exchange negotiators stood the FT ordinary index down a further 10 points to 255.6. The level since mid-March, the index has dropped 100 points. City brokers are convinced that a change of Government including further cuts in public spending is inevitable next year. A widespread feeling of Government cannot continue any longer to maintain the pace of inflation in the level in the industrialized countries. The Prime Minister at he would hope to see some concrete evidence of the search for a new economic policy, the Chancellor, Mr. Callaghan.

The broad retreat in the financial markets can only increase the pressure under which the Government must work. The rejection of any pay curbs by some trade union leaders has led financial opinion both at home and abroad to conclude that the Government will have no alternative but to introduce a severe package of tax increases and cuts in public spending. There is also speculation that British interest rates will be raised sharply to protect the pound and avert any massive withdrawal of funds from the City. The pound has now floated down to 255.6.

Against the dollar, sterling yesterday plunged another 18 cents to close at \$2.2550. This month alone the pound has fallen almost 10 cents or about 4 per cent. Arab oil money in London is thus being eroded in value rapidly. At what point the oil states will be forced to start withdrawing funds remains the great uncertainty.

Any wholesale movement in this direction would have a devastating impact on the pound. Economics ministers must be keenly aware of this. In some respects the sharp retreat in the financial markets can be of considerable help to the Government, creating the climate in which the Trades Union Congress is forced to accept severe curbs on pay or accept responsibility for the consequences.

The subtleties of these negotiations, however, are clearly understood by foreign bankers.

## Delhi robs detainees of right to appeal

Delhi, June 27.—Mrs Gandhi's Government tonight stripped about 900 people arrested under the new emergency declaration of their constitutional right to appeal to the courts for their release.

President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed signed an executive order designed to stop any legal proceedings on behalf of the detainees.

They will be now barred from invoking several of their fundamental rights to seek their release. The three basic constitutional articles suspended today normally guarantee everyone equal protection of the laws, the protection of life and personal liberty and protection against unwarranted arrest and detention.

The new order also applies to foreigners. None is known to have been arrested. AP.

New arrests, page 4

## Uganda seizes Britons 'for trial by military tribunal'

From Charles Harrison

Nairobi, June 27

The affair of Mr. Dennis Hills, the British lecturer under sentence of death for treason in Uganda, became more disturbing today with the announcement from Uganda that an unknown number of Britons were under arrest there and are to appear before a military tribunal.

No information was given about their identity, nor about any pending charges, but a spokesman quoted by Radio Uganda said they could face the same fate as Mr. Hills, because some of the cases were "even more serious".

General Amin has not replied to the latest message from Mr. Wilson, the Prime Minister, offering a new start to relations between Britain and Uganda.

Mr. Wilson's message has been interpreted in Nairobi as a calculated move to cool down the strained situation which has arisen since the visit of Lieutenant-General Sir Chundros Blair last weekend with an appeal from the Queen.

Although General Amin had

said that Mr. Hills will be executed on July 4 if Mr. Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, does not fly to see him by then, there are still hopes that this could be averted.

Mr. Wilson has said that Mr. Callaghan will fly to Uganda, provided the threat of execution is first removed, and he has made a definite goodwill move by offering to send a military team to discuss Uganda's need for spare parts for its British military equipment.

Meanwhile the situation has been further complicated by General Amin's claim that he has been threatened with invasion by British troops from Kenya and by the interception in Kenya of a convey of Soviet military equipment heading for Uganda.

Kenya, which has indignantly denied the presence of foreign troops in the country, had apparently given permission for the convey of four huge transporters, driven by Russian and Ugandan crews, to travel from Mombasa port to Uganda, a journey of about 600 miles,

taking several days.

Last night, however, the Kenyans ordered the Russians in the convey to return to Uganda immediately by air, apparently on the ground that they had immigration permits only to cross the country by a direct route. The transporters, with their heavily shrouded loads, were left at the roadside in a Nairobi suburb.

Today they were moved into a field of mine near by and held under police guard. The Ugandans promptly denied that the transporters were carrying surface-to-air missiles, and said they were merely two "ferries" to facilitate movement of vehicles across rivers near the Sudan border and on the Uganda-Zaire border.

It was learnt this evening that President Kenyatta twice telephoned President Amin today, and that they had "fruitful discussions". President Kenyatta proposed that Uganda should send an envoy to Nairobi, where he would discuss the situation and suggest the "best" thing happened without his knowledge", according to Radio Uganda.

During what appears to have been an extremely busy day for General Amin, he received Mr. Zakharov, the Soviet Ambassador, who expressed concern over Tanzania's fears that the Soviet arms supplied to Uganda could be a threat to her.

It appears that the Soviet Ambassador in Tanzania has been called on to find ways of removing the threat to Tanzania. This is a significant development, because the Soviet Union appears to have accepted that its relations with Tanzania and other African states could suffer in the face of increasing concern about the very large quantities of Soviet-supplied arms in Uganda.

Kampala: President Amin has changed his mind about erecting a monument to Hitler in Uganda after learning that he killed 50 million people during the Second World War.

The source of his information was a book *The Hot Show*, given to him by the Soviet Ambassador, which stated that Hitler was a racist, imperialist and a murderer, an official communiqué issued here said.

General Amin has in the past publicly praised the Nazi killing of millions of Jews.—Agence France Presse.

Lagos: Two Nigerian newspapers appealed to President Amin to spare the life of Mr. Hills.

The *Daily Sketch* said that it was in the interests of humanity to do so. Although Mr. Hills' alleged reference to President Amin as "a village tyrant" it was not sufficient reason for Mr. Hills to be shot.

The *Nigerian Observer* called on all African leaders who have any influence with President Amin to intercede on Mr. Hills' behalf.

Moscow: The Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* today indicated Soviet support for President Amin in his dispute with Britain over Mr. Hills. It said "Ugandan public opinion has become seriously concerned over the campaign unleashed against Uganda by the British mass information media."

Leading article, page 13



Poise restored. Virginia Wade, of Britain, regains her touch after losing it halfway through her match with Janet Newberry, of United States, at Wimbledon yesterday. She won 6-2, 6-3, 8-6. (Page 21.)

## Watergate jurors question Mr Nixon

From Patrick Brogan

Washington, June 27

Former President Nixon was examined by Watergate special prosecutors and two members of the grand jury in California on Monday and Tuesday. It was disclosed today. The questioning lasted a total of 11 hours.

The grand jury is due to wind up its affairs next week, and if it is to make any further indictments it must do so soon. Mr. Nixon gave evidence voluntarily—although there was always the implied threat that he would be subpoenaed if he did not—and requested that the fact should be made public.

Usually the identity of witnesses in grand jury hearings is kept secret and the fruits of the examination always are. Because he has received a full pardon for everything he may have done while in office, Mr. Nixon could not claim the privilege of refusing to answer under the Fifth Amendment's rule on self-incrimination. He would, of course, be liable to perjury charges if appropriate.

He did not come to Washington to testify before the full grand jury for reasons of health. Among the matters he may have been asked about are the financial arrangements of his friend Mr. Bob Felt, the gap in a tape recording of a conversation he had with Mr. B. R. Haldean, the former White House chief of staff, three years ago, the selective editing of the White House transcripts before they were published and, possibly, a great number of other loose ends of the Watergate investigations.

The matter of the buzz on the tape is the most clear-cut.

## Mr Peart asks EEC for egg protection

By Hugh Clayton

Agricultural Correspondent

Britain asked the EEC Commission yesterday for leave to protect poultry farmers against landings of cheap eggs from France. Mr. Peart, Minister of Agriculture, made the application, said in a statement issued through his officials. "The situation in our egg market has taken a sharp turn for the worse."

Under Community rules the British Government cannot take unilateral action that disrupts free trading. But the Treaty of Accession allows it to ask the Commission for leave to do so. Demonstrations by egg producers have occurred at ports this year in protest against the landing of cheap French eggs. Sir Henry Plumb, president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "A complete ban is absolutely necessary if the industry is to be saved from collapse. Confidence within the industry has been completely eroded."

Wholesale prices of eggs have fallen twice in the past 10 days and are now lower than any time since February 1973. Officials at the ministry said that imports last month accounted for 21 per cent of total supplies.

## The Queen to pay state visit to US next year

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are to pay a state visit to the United States next year. They have accepted President Ford's invitation to go there from July 7 to 11, during the American bicentennial year, Buckingham Palace said yesterday.

Afterwards the Queen will go to Montreal where she will open the 1976 Olympic Games on July 17.

The Queen will remain in North America after the end of the state visit to the United States, but her programme covering the intervening period until her engagement in Montreal has not yet been determined.

The Queen and the Duke paid a five-day state visit to the United States in October, 1957, and visited Chicago for a day in July, 1959, during the St Lawrence Seaway opening ceremonies.

## 'The Sunday Times' wins appeal on Crossman injunction

By a Staff Reporter

An injunction granted to Mr. Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, in the High Court yesterday preventing *The Sunday Times* from publishing material from the diaries of Mr. Richard Crossman was set aside later in the Court of Appeal after the newspaper had given certain undertakings about the kind of material it would not publish.

Mr. Silkin failed to obtain an injunction to stop *The Sunday Times* republishing in the next month parts of diaries it had already serialised, even though the Cabinet Office disapproved of them. The Court of Appeal refused leave for him to appeal against the decision to the House of Lords.

The Attorney General withdrew his demand that until the full actions on the diaries are heard in about a month the newspaper should not be allowed to publish any Cabinet or ministerial policy discussions of the past 15 years unless the items were approved by the Cabinet Office.

The effect of the judgment is that *The Sunday Times* will be able to publish tomorrow Cabinet material from the diaries of the 1956-60 period, which has already been published, compare it with Mr. Wilson's memoirs, and comment.

Newspapers would be free now to carry on the routine business of political inquiry and reporting. Mr. Harold Evans, the newspaper's editor, said after the judgment: "The wide nature of the Attorney General's demand 'demonstrates the need for not merely vigilance, but alert opposition from all those who care for free speech, free inquiry and good government in this country'."

In the High Court yesterday morning Mr. Justice Ackner granted the Attorney General's demand for a wide-ranging injunction, despite the newspaper's offer not to publish any hitherto unpublished

Crossman material. He cut the Attorney General's suggested time limit for an interim ban on Cabinet or ministerial policy discussions from 30 to 15 years.

The parties immediately moved from their court to that of Lord Denning, the Master of the Rolls, who heard the appeal against the judgment. *The Sunday Times* offered a further undertaking that it would not publish comments from third parties on the diaries based on Cabinet material.

Yesterday's action was the result of the publication last Sunday of interviews with former ministers of their recollections of the period covered by the diary extracts.

But the paper reserved the right to republish Crossman extracts, even though the Cabinet Office had not originally sanctioned them. It also reserved the right to make editorial comment on them and to publish contrasting material from already published memoirs.

*The Sunday Times* claimed the further freedom, pending the trial, to publish, at its own risk, other material apart from that connected with the Crossman diaries, even if that material infringed the limits of what the Attorney General maintained ought to be confidential matters.

Lord Denning, accepting the undertakings, said that counsel for the Attorney General had said there was an implied threat in Mr. Evans's statements that he planned to print other, separate Cabinet material. Lord Denning did not see that the newspaper was simply reserving its legal position.

As to the published Crossman material, the harm, if there was any, had been done. There was no point in banning it from being republished. The matters were ones in which the Attorney General had no established rights. It would be a matter of great moment, and controversy at the trial, what his rights were.

Law Report, page 4  
Leading article, page 13

## h move al ch in ranks

Mark respondent the former Condon, in a carefully chosen last night the broadening of the gap between him and the former Cabinet the one hand, and her Shadow the other, since the Conservative in Mr. Heath's as the success of ives in the Woolf-election. Mr. had just returned Canada, said he by the result and vilified Mr. Peter the Conservative the Thatcher and fire party on the night.

th was obviously d with the argu developed in the Party over alowed to accept Shadow Cabinet cher was elected y 11. He said: "I remained over 25 lie from issuing ut inaccurate or reports, and I this practice since the leadership of Party. The mighions ave appeared par-the facts about a business, and to my house of u particularly in various allegations lack of courtesy wo home. I must y that there was any kind of any hatcher and Sir ten confirm.

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Conservative appointing was u not take the iver a firm and urance of his Thatcher and n page 2, col 4

## Privileges committee to rule on sponsoring

By Our Political Staff

The declaration of the Yorkshire and Lancashire branches of the National Union of Miscellaneous Workers in Yorkshire by the union or speak in Parliament against union policy their sponsorship will be withdrawn, was yesterday referred to the Committee on Privileges of the House of Commons.

The Speaker, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, ruled that having considered the facts presented on Thursday by Mr. George Cunningham, Labour MP for Islington, South and Finsbury, he had decided that a motion referring the matter to the Committee on Privileges should be given precedence. Mr. Cunningham immediately moved the resolution, which was carried without opposition.

The five Labour MPs affected by the area council's declaration include Mr. Mason, Secretary of State for Defence.

The matter will come before the national conference of the NUM beginning at Scarborough on July 7.

Mr. Scargill, unconcerned: Mr. Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' president, said last night about the decision: "It does not cause me any concern. I shall just have to consider what to do as and when necessary" (the Press Association reports).

The question of sponsorship amuses me. How do they differentiate between a three-line whip and sponsorship? We cannot see any logic in saying thousands of pounds to the Labour Party for MPs who are not prepared to vote with the union's policy.

If they had voted with the union's policies over the last few years, we would still have an industry of 700,000 men with an output in excess of 200 million tons.

Parliament, page 14

## Judge says student rent rebels must pay

By a Staff Reporter

Students at Surrey University, who have been refusing to pay increased rents since last term, were ordered by Chulford County Court yesterday to pay up and to bear the costs of the case.

The university authorities said last night that the ruling had put an end to the rent strike as a weapon for students' unions. "If other universities follow suit—and clearly state the terms under which rent must be paid, this judgment means an end to the rent strike for political and economic ends", an official said.

The students said they were horrified at Judge Solomon's ruling that "students have no right to question finance and general purposes committee decisions" and that they intended to appeal. The university increased rents for 1,600 students in uni-

versity accommodation from £4.60 to £5.75 a week at the beginning of the spring term. There was considerable protest and 153 students paid the old rent into a fund set up by the students' union.

Yesterday Mr. Donald Hoyle, aged 23, vice-president of the students' union, appeared before the court on the basis that the decision would be binding on the other rent rebels.

Judge Solomon rejected his argument that the university was not allowed to raise rents once the academic year had started because the authorities had not specified at the beginning of the academic year what the rent would be during the spring and summer terms.

The students, who have agreed to end the strike, were ordered to pay £10,617 and the costs, which are believed to be about £3,000.

## Whale quotas for all seas agreed

A new procedure for conservation of the world's whales was agreed by the International Whaling Commission yesterday.

For the first time quotas for all oceans are established. Southern seas sperm whale limits are reduced from 13,000 to 10,740. Page 2

## Ford brake on prices

In an attempt to win a larger share of the depressed British car market, Ford will announce average price increases of only 2.5 per cent next week—the smallest rise for several years and 50 per cent below those of most competitors. Page 15

RSPCA recovery: As a result of last year's inquiry into its affairs, the RSPCA is reported to be in good health once more. Page 2

Broadcasting: Proposals that would mean the virtual end of the BBC and ITA have been received by the Annan Committee. Page 2

Lord Lucas: Scotland Yard detectives transfer investigations to St. Malo and 'Dihard in Britain'. Page 3

Rhodesia: White MP says a greater sharing of power with Africans is essential to break political deadlock. Page 4

Nuclear pact: West Germany is to provide Brazil with a complete nuclear industry over the next 15 years. Page 15

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## EEC delegation

Liberal MPs last night succeeded in blocking Commons approval for Labour's delegation of 12 MPs to the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Their objection arises from protracted negotiations between Mr. Thorpe and Mr. Wilson about retaining the two Liberal representatives. Page 3

Letters: On the economic crisis from Mr. Jo Grimond, MP, and others; on Israel and Lord Moyne's assassins from Mr. Andrew Hughes-Quinlan and others. Page 13

Features: pages 6-12  
Edward Heath describes how business racing is catching on in Britain. Pounce Wright, the moon is used to predict earthquakes; Rabbi David J. Goldberg asks if the corollary of Nazism heralded the end of anti-semitism. Sports, pages 21-23

Crickets: Cowdrey scores 151 not out to help Kent beat the Australians. Racism: Peter Vallentyne tries for Irish Derby-Grand Prix de Paris-double. Golf: European and Commonwealth team tournaments. Arts, page 9

The Times records of the month reviewed by Alan Blyth, Joan Chissell, John Higgins, John Perle and Stanley Sadie. Business News, pages 15-20

Stock market: Both shares and equities fell back yesterday. The FT index lost 8.2 points to 293.6. Personal investment and finance: Moves to regulate insurance brokers. It is examined by Anthony Rowley. Patricia Tisdall on the costs of cancellation. A review by Michael Butler of unit trust performance. Page 15

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## HOME NEWS

## Nalco accepts 22.5% after warning of risk in strike action

By Tim Jones

Labour Staff  
After hearing that "major industrial action" would be needed to press home their original pay demand, delegates at a special conference of the National and Local Government Officers' Association yesterday reluctantly accepted a 22.5 per cent pay deal.

A call for the delegates to pursue their original claim for a flat £10-a-week plus 15 per cent increase and to hold an immediate ballot to determine whether the demand should be backed by industrial action was defeated by 874 votes to 152.

The decision will be greeted with considerable relief by the TUC and the Government as they formulate their plans to control prices and reduce the rate of inflation.

Defending the new offer, the general secretary, Mr Geoffrey Dray, outlined the economic position and said: "We are in a most dire situation. We would be serving our members very badly indeed if we could not take what we could get, but it is a fairly lousy deal."

The original demand would have meant pay rises of up to 35 per cent for some of the 400,000 workers involved and the union's decision indicates

that they were aware that the employers, faced with frequent government pleas to cut down their spending, were adamant against improving the offer.

Mr Dray, a member of the TUC General Council, said he had been speaking to members of that body's economic committee. "I have regard for what they say, and after listening to them I am very worried about the economic situation."

Mr Frederick Jex, chairman of the union's national and local government committee, warned the delegates that because of the economic situation and the consequent pressure by the Government and the TUC it was the "worst possible time" for the union to embark on industrial action.

Mr James White, a Dundee delegate, strongly opposed the settlement and claimed that it was the employers who had broken the social contract by ignoring the guidelines which said that lower-paid workers should be protected.

Mr White maintained that it was a fundamental duty of any trade union to protect the living standards of its members. "If we are to retain the title of trade unionists and if we are to retain the membership of our lower-paid members then we must support the original pay claim."

## Far-reaching proposals to end BBC and IBA

By a Staff Reporter

Far-reaching proposals that could lead to the disappearance of the BBC and the IBA in their present form have been submitted to the Annan Committee on the Future of Broadcasting by the Standing Conference on Broadcasting.

The standing conference, a group of academics, journalists and others directly concerned with broadcasting, was set up in April, 1973, by the Action Society Trust as an independent organization to analyze, articulate and promote the public interest in United Kingdom broadcasting.

At a press conference yesterday Lord Annan described its evidence as very important. It was similar to views submitted by the Labour Party and at least one trade union. "The committee thought the views of such interest that we ought to try to discover their reasons in depth for reaching these conclusions," he said.

The conference wants the purpose of broadcasting defined and thereafter constantly reviewed. Broadcasters should anticipate social problems and not be led merely by the news value.

There should be more public discussion on the type of programmes broadcast, instead of that being left to the broadcasters, whose interests and those of society may conflict. Broadcasting should be defined and thereafter constantly reviewed. Broadcasters should anticipate social problems and not be led merely by the news value.

It also feels there is a need to review the mechanisms of internal and external accountability of broadcasting. The performance of broadcasting companies and institutions should be "monitored and assessed on a regular basis."

The conference proposes the creation of three new bodies: 1. A Central Broadcasting Council, made up of elected representatives of the broadcasting organizations, nominees from national bodies and nominees from major political organizations, to handle the administration of national broadcasting bodies.

2. An independent research organization to monitor the operation of broadcasting research, management of public information and provide a forum for the creative discussion of future choices.

3. A new Ministry of Communications to coordinate policies at a national level, and amalgamate the responsibilities at present scattered between the Department of Industry, the Home Office and the departments of education and science, and trade.

The conference also sees the possibility for a parliamentary standing committee to keep Parliament informed about the broadcasting developments in media and communications. Legislation should be introduced, it says, establishing the right of public access to all information concerning public service broadcasting at all levels, except in special cases. That would be the simplest and most effective way of reforming existing procedures of accountability.

The Annan committee has received more than 600 written submissions in its first year of existence. It has another year and a half to go before it is due to report to the Home Secretary.

Our own private surveys made with shampoos which made rabbits scream; pigs were being subjected to electric shocks of up to 5,000 volts; and other animals were being used to test poison gases, weedkillers and insecticides.

Much toxicity testing means a slow, protracted death and it illustrates the trend away from basic medical research to non-essentials. It is a crying need to keep up the pressure on the Government for the next few months by all legitimate means. We have lifted a corner of the blanket of secrecy over this whole murky business.

Mr Frederick Burden, Conservative MP for Gillingham and vice-chairman of the society, said: "There is a growing opinion in Parliament that something must be done, that the whole area of animal welfare needs to be brought up to date."

Mr Richard Ryder, a leading member of the society's animal experimentation advisory committee, said that more evidence had been produced in the past year against "the callous and cruel use of animals in experiments, especially those which do not have a strictly medical purpose." He said that of 5,300,000 licensed experiments a year, nearly two thirds were performed for commercial undertakings.

In addition to the smoking experiments with beagles in Cheshire, Mr Ryder referred to others involving rabbits at Oxford. He said a blistering agent was being put into the animals' eyes which resulted in eye rupture within 28 days. Other experiments were being



Mr Peter Bottomley and his wife, Virginia, listening to the by-election result at Greenwich Town Hall early yesterday.

## Heath move to heal Tory split

Continued from page 1

The Conservative leadership at a time when, as shown by the Woolwich result, the party may be poised for a political breakthrough.

The fundamental question still remains: what does the Conservative Party offer as an alternative to the economic policies being pursued by the Labour Government to combat inflation? On that issue, where the monetarist theories of Sir Keith Joseph have special relevance, the Conservative Party is still divided.

But Mrs Thatcher was not without her supporters yesterday. Sir Frederick, senior Conservative MP for Rochester, speaking in his constituency last night, said that the success at Woolwich proved beyond doubt that the Conservative Party under its new direction and leadership had "taken a decisive step forward to an outright victory at the next general election."

He said that the result would have been even better if, since Mrs Thatcher's election to the leadership last February, she had enjoyed the same absolute majority that had properly been afforded to Mr Heath during his tenure of the office for almost a decade.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Shadow Chancellor, said at Colchester last night that the voters of Woolwich had given notice that they were looking for early and decisive action of Britain's economic difficulties.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, the Conservative spokesman on education, said last night that the by-election result constituted a major setback for socialist educational policy, since education was one of the principal issues during the campaign.

Many parents voted Conservative in order to retain their excellent local grammar school, Colfe's School, which is threatened with destruction by the Labour Government, he said.

Our own private surveys

showed that, while inflation was the principal issue, education ranked second to it.

"There is still time for Mr Mulley, the new minister, particularly in view of the heavy cuts in the educational budget which are to come to abandon the extremism of his predecessor, Mr Prentice, and adopt a new policy."

Jack Jones, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said yesterday that Labour's defeat in the Woolwich by-election must be taken as a warning to all in the Labour movement to close their ranks (our Northern Industrial Correspondent writes).

The comment came from Mr Jones at Blackpool, where he took the opportunity of rallying the support of delegates representing rank-and-file members of his union behind his "flat rate" pay proposals, which have been adopted by the TUC General Council.

Mr Jones said that the flat rate principle, applied to everyone, had the twin advantages of simplicity and social justice. He went on: "We must break the cycle and get back to the position in which unions and employers can plan with some confidence, instead of running in fear of ever-worsening inflation."

The Woolwich, West, by-election result was:

P. J. Bottomley (C)	17,280
J. Stanger (Lab)	14,898
Mrs S. Hobday (L)	1,884
Mrs R. Robinson (Nat Front)	856
R. Mallone (Fellowship Party)	218
F. Hamard-Miller (Eng Nat)	140
R. Simmonson (C against Com Market)	104
P. Bishop (Ind)	41
C majority	2,382

Swing from Labour to Conservative of 7.6 per cent in 52.3 per cent turn out.

The by-election was caused by the death in March of Mr William Hamlyn, the Labour MP who was a parliamentary private secretary to Mr Wilson. General election: W. Hamlyn (Lab), 19,614; P. J. Bottomley (C), 16,212; Mrs S. Hobday (L), 5,562. Labour maj: 3,541.

## Reductions agreed for whale catch in all oceans for the first time

From Pearce Wright Science Editor

The most important step yet taken in the protection of the whale from extinction was taken in London yesterday at the International Whaling Commission. That was the view of some delegates who have campaigned vigorously for a 10-year moratorium on all whaling.

Although their proposal has not been accepted, a programme of conservation reducing the catch this year from 37,500 to 32,450, has been agreed.

The procedure for the first time establishes the levels of catch allowed for all oceans. Long-established whaling in the North Atlantic becomes subject to a quota system introduced to the rest of the world some time ago. The provision represents partial acceptance of the 10-year moratorium proposed by the United States and supported by the United Kingdom and other non-whaling members of the commission.

Much attention has focused on the plight of the huge sperm

whales, which provide a large proportion of the tinned whale meat. Quotas for male and female sperm whales differ. In the southern seas the allowable catch this year has been reduced from 8,000 whales to 5,870 and from 5,000 females to 4,870. In the north Pacific the comparable figures are a reduction from 6,000 to 5,200, and from 4,000 to 3,100.

Dr Robert White, United States commissioner, believes the new procedure establishes a selective moratorium which will prevent commercial whaling from bringing any stock below a safety level. He said later: "This affords protection for whales long before they are reduced to endangered levels. Previous practice placed whales in a protected status only when they approached extinction."

As a result of the decision by the International Whaling Commission, commercial whaling will now be prohibited for all fin and sei whales in the North Pacific; fin whales in almost all of the Arctic; fin whale except for areas around

Iceland and Newfoundland; sei whales in a major region of the southern hemisphere; and sperm whales in the vicinity of eastern Australia.

However, the actions of the commission agreed at its closing plenary session yesterday can be overturned within 90 days by an objection of any one member. The most likely objectors would be Japan or Russia, which take more than 80 per cent of the world's catch.

Provided there is no dissent, the commission will implement a crucial programme for conservation. One decision is for an international decade of cetacean research to establish more information on the behaviour and breeding patterns of the mammals.

A second is to strengthen the secretariat, which has been under severe criticism as a body through which regulations can be carried out. Another is for a review of the existing convention to make the commission more consistent with modern principles of conservation.

## Ministry's changed status raises foreign aid fears

By Penny Symon Political Staff

The Prime Minister's latest move over the future of the Ministry of Overseas Development has worried some MPs, who feel that the independent status of the ministry is being whittled away, a position which runs counter to the stated policy of the Labour Party.

In a Commons written reply to Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham, South, who had asked for a statement about the change in status, Mr Wilson said Mr Callaghan, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, would continue to exercise overall responsibility for the ministry's functions as Minister of Overseas Development.

That arrangement, Mr Wilson said, would not affect the status of Mr Prentice, Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with responsibility for overseas

development. The separate ministry would remain in being. But this was objected to yesterday by Mr Frank Hooley, Labour MP for Southend-on-Sea.

Mr Hooley said that the announcement would cause dismay and consternation about the future of overseas aid. The Prime Minister had announced that the proposed change in status of the ministry would be achieved by placing before the Commons a Transfer of Function Order. Mr Hooley added: "The decision to make the Foreign Secretary also the titular Minister of Overseas Development is immensely controversial. Not only will it mean that the change need not be debated in the House, but it is a complete betrayal of the spirit of the Labour commitment to change the former Conservative policy of joining these departments."

Mr Prentice became Minister for Overseas Development in the recent reshuffle and was allowed to retain his seat in the Cabinet.

## Student protest at cost of Queen's visit

Police stepped between demonstrating students and people in the crowd greeting the Queen on a visit to Birmingham University yesterday. Several policemen shielded the 20 students as arguments broke out after a man tried to grab the megaphone they were using to shout slogans.

Mr Gordon Bridgwood, a member of the student union executive, said: "The university have paid out a hell of a lot of money on this visit at a time when they say they cannot subsidise student catering and health fees which are too high. We are protesting against this sort of waste when education cuts are being made."

The Queen ignored the group but laughed and chatted with some of the hundreds of cheering students lining her route.

## Girl who stole baby is sent to borstal

From Our Correspondent Plymouth

Plymouth Crown Court was told yesterday that a woman on a train became suspicious when she saw a girl trying to feed a baby boy, aged seven months, with a packet of chicken sandwiches. She told the police, who later found the child safe in Plymouth, 150 miles from his home.

The girl, Susan Forrest, aged 18, admitted child stealing, and was sent to borstal. Mr John Smythe, for the prosecution, said that Miss Forrest, now homeless, was looking after the boy, the son of a young couple with whom she was living.

But she packed her bags and took a train, where she was seen by the woman in the restaurant car.

## LSE chairman

Mr H.W. Wheldon, managing director of television for the BBC, has been appointed chairman of the court of governors of the London School of Economics.

## Mr Mulley on challenge to education service

Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in a message to the Association of Education Committees conference at Eastbourne yesterday, said: "The British people are at their best when the chips are down."

"We face a period of uncertainties and difficulties. Every sector of the economy and every one of us, both in our private and public life, will, indeed, already, be, feeling the pinch."

Mr Mulley said he had started his new job as Secretary of State at a moment when it is more important than ever before to face the truth. Every sector of the education service must confront the fact and summon all their reserves of understanding, wisdom and determination to make the difficult decisions that will have to be taken. "I am sure the education service will rise to this challenge," he said.

Two countries gave warning at the conference on prospect for school leavers. Mr Edward Day, chairman of Devon education committee, said there were only 1,032 jobs available; present for 5,300 school leavers in his area. Mr Peter Fulton, chairman of Cleveland education committee, said his area had 1,322 vacancies, but only 242 vacancies.

Universities defended: Speaking at the conference, Lord Boyle of Handsworth, vice-chancellor of Leeds University and former Conservative Secretary for Education, said British universities of the 1960s had something special to offer the nation and their freedom must be preserved. They were national institutions.

Universities had always shown that they knew their part in the economic drive. In the past they had responded to government call for expansion. They represented an enormous capital and human investment. If there were sometimes competition for higher education, it was their fault.

## In brief

## Crocodile import licences

Live crocodiles, alligators, and species of crocodylia, and emydidae turtles can be imported into Britain after July 18 only under licence an order laid before Parliament yesterday states.

There is widespread acceptance among specialists that all species of crocodylia need conservation.

## Train kills worker

A railway worker was killed instantly yesterday when he was hit at 75 mph by the Birmingham to Manchester express at Smithwick, Staffordshire. He was Mr Keith Morris, aged 20, of Long Mill North, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton.

## Dispute stops TV

A pay dispute involving technicians who are members of the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs, blacked out Caribbe, the London Weekend Television detective programme, for 15 minutes last night.

## School to reopen

Sedgefield Comprehensive School, Co Durham, is to reopen on Wednesday after a three-week closure. A tribunal will look into the case of a boy whose teachers refused to teach because of his alleged violence.

## Programme changed

Contract restrictions on some members have forced the New Philharmonia Orchestra and chorus to change their programme at the Festival Hall on July 6. They will now perform Verdi's Requiem.

## Girders fall on man

Police Sergeant Harry Wicks was taken to hospital with serious leg injuries yesterday after being trapped by tons of steel girders falling from a lorry in Paignton.

## Canal purchase plan

Surrey County Council land and buildings committee is recommending the purchase of a 15-mile stretch of the Basingstoke canal, it was announced yesterday.

## New London park

A new park stretching for some four-and-a-half miles along both banks of the river Brent and the Grand Union canal, in west London, is to be officially inaugurated tomorrow.

## Battlefield preservation

A group of historians under the presidency of Sir Arthur Bryant have formed a society to preserve the Civil War battlefield of Naseby, threatened by a road scheme.

## Open verdict at inquest on atom worker

From Our Correspondent Barrow-in-Furness

An open verdict was recorded yesterday at the inquest on Mr Geoffrey Southward, a former Windscale atomic plant worker, who died of leukaemia.

Results of tests for plutonium in the body of Mr Southward, who died at North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow, Cumbria, on January 8, aged 49, were not yet known. Dr Derek Stansfield, pathologist, said Mr Southward, who worked at Windscale for 24 years, died two days after another former Windscale worker.

Yesterday Mr William Ellison, the Furness coroner, said there was no evidence whether Mr Southward's leukaemia was caused naturally or in the course of his work.

Afterwards, Mr David Gee, representing British Nuclear Fuels which manages Windscale, said the cause of Mr Southward's death and those of several other former Windscale workers was a medical question to be decided by the High Court.

## Methodists told to avoid panic

The church must economize but must not be reduced to panic by talk of a financial crisis or to impotence by lack of financial support, the Rev A. Raymond George said in his presidential address to the Methodist Conference in Liverpool yesterday. He added: "We all manage to pay more for petrol or newspapers because we have to. Are churches and charities to suffer because we are free to choose?"

"Is it simply a question, in the inelegant phrase, of putting your money where your mouth is? How much, in the last resort, do we value the work of the church?"

Mr George said bereavement, diseases and natural disasters reminded people that they were not meant to live in a Utopia, but such inevitable ills were no excuse for the blatant evils for which human sin was responsible. Greed, racism and other forms of discrimination, violence, torture and war.

Behind all that, and exacerbating it, lay poverty and the fear that the world's resources and energy would soon be exhausted.

Mr Bill Cockell, the new lay head of the church, said in his vice-presidential address that young people today grew up very much aware of the issues dividing the world: hunger, violence, race and the tension of opposing political ideologies.

They were also aware of that trinity of money, power and sex, which was the god of modern man's religion. Many looked to the church around them and were all too often disillusioned, he said.

## RSPCA 'in better health' after inquiry

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

In marked contrast to other years, yesterday's annual meeting in Birmingham of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was fraternal and free of discord. Mr Charles Spaulding, QC, chairman of the wide-ranging inquiry into the society's affairs, which reported late last year, said:

"There has been a clean break with the past and a new start. The inquiry has been more remarkable in its purpose. The society is in good health once more. It is a little weak, has lost a lot of blood and will need some tending for a while, but the fever has gone."

A distant echo of previous meetings came from only one member, who remarked: "When it comes out unanimously against fox hunting our harmony will be complete."

Mr Richard Ryder, a leading member of the society's animal experimentation advisory committee, said that more evidence had been produced in the past year against "the callous and cruel use of animals in experiments, especially those which do not have a strictly medical purpose." He said that of 5,300,000 licensed experiments a year, nearly two thirds were performed for commercial undertakings.

In addition to the smoking experiments with beagles in Cheshire, Mr Ryder referred to others involving rabbits at Oxford. He said a blistering agent was being put into the animals' eyes which resulted in eye rupture within 28 days. Other experiments were being

made with shampoos which made rabbits scream; pigs were being subjected to electric shocks of up to 5,000 volts; and other animals were being used to test poison gases, weedkillers and insecticides.

Much toxicity testing means a slow, protracted death and it illustrates the trend away from basic medical research to non-essentials. It is a crying need to keep up the pressure on the Government for the next few months by all legitimate means. We have lifted a corner of the blanket of secrecy over this whole murky business.

Mr Frederick Burden, Conservative MP for Gillingham and vice-chairman of the society, said: "There is a growing opinion in Parliament that something must be done, that the whole area of animal welfare needs to be brought up to date."

## Old Master paintings sale tops the £1m mark

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's proved remarkably successful with expensive Old Master paintings yesterday in their main sale of the summer season, which realized £1,191,697, with only just over 10 per cent unsold. The top price was £147,000 paid by David Koester for a Peter de Booch scene, entitled "Sleeping Beauty," depicting a woman and child in a Dutch courtyard bordering a rose garden.

A good work by this seventeenth-century master of intimate scenes is hard to come by, but Christie's had more remarkable than £50,000. The price is easily an auction record for the artist; the highest previously recorded at auction for his work was £32,000.

The £63,000 paid by Hugh Leggett for a "Frozen River Landscape" by Jan van Goyen, was also an auction record for the artist, who died in 1792. The sale was well supplied with Venetian paintings, particularly the work of Canaletto. Works by him during his brief visit to England have tended in the past to make exceptionally high prices.

Yesterday was no exception. Roy Miles paid £105,000 for a London view, "The Old Horse Guards and the Banqueting Hall from Saint James's Park, an attractive and well documented work by Canaletto from the estate of Major A. F. Clarke-Jervoise; a view of the Bacini San Marco, with a map of the Venetian lagoon, estimated £25,700 (estimate £20,000 to £40,000), and the more standard "View on the Grand Canal," £20,450 (estimate £25,000 to £35,000).

Other outstanding prices included £25,250 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000) for "Abraham's Departure from Ur," by the seventeenth-century Italian artist, and £15,750 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000) paid by Richard Green for two fine studies of butterflies and insects by Jan van Kesteren.

French auctioneers are given to turning sales into promotional activities for special collecting fields, and Christie's did so with Symbolist paintings on Thursday night at the Hotel George V. The top price was \$90,000 for a 1912 painting by Odilon Redon entitled "Tête Astrale".

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Mrs Castle said the cost of allowing wages to race ahead would come in higher prices, unemployment and cuts in public expenditure. Those cuts would mean fewer doctors, nurses, social workers and hospitals.

## Inflation a threat to socialism, Mrs Castle says

Inflation is a desperate threat to the future of Socialism in Britain, Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, said last night.

Wide-ranging social reforms had been introduced to help to make the lives of working people happier, healthier and more fulfilled. It was to build this life that I have campaigned all my life in this movement—not to preside over its demolition," she told Labour Party workers in Weston-upon-Ave.

There is hope, but only if we as a movement are prepared to recognize that if the future of Socialism is wrecked it will be, tragically, as a result of decisions and choices which we ourselves have made.

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## Courts are not dustbins, judge says

The attitude of welfare authorities towards a "socially awkward" woman, aged 23, was criticized in the Court of Appeal yesterday when Dawn Clarke, of Fawcett, Cornwall, who had been sentenced at Exeter Crown Court to 18 months' jail for breaking a flower pot, was freed and ordered to pay a £2 fine instead.

Lord Justice Lawton said: "Her Majesty's courts are not dustbins into which the medical, welfare and social services can dump their unwanted members of the public. And still less, Her Majesty's judges do not dispose of those who are socially awkward in this way, so the road ahead would be terrible to conquer."

We stand on that road barring the way and if anyone thinks they can dispose of people by having them sent to jail, they can think again."

The judge said Dawn Clarke had a history of mental disorder. By the age of 19 she had had two "maybe three" illegitimate children, and was given a hysterectomy.

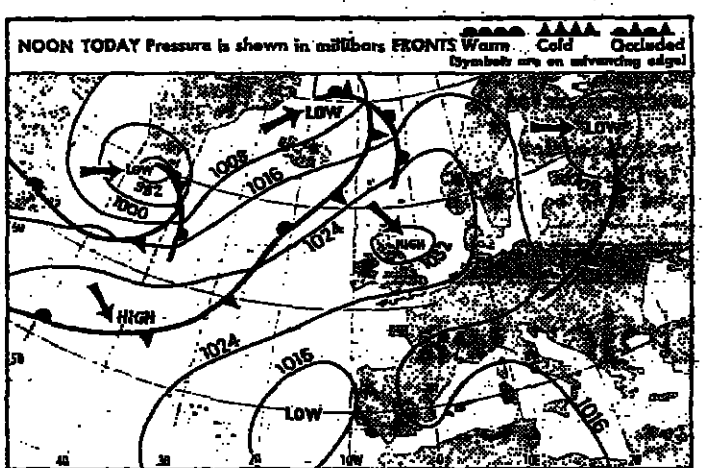
Then she started committing "social nuisance" offences. She was convicted of drug offences, soliciting, larceny and assault on police.

She was sent to borstal and to several hospitals. In one of them she threw flower pots on the floor and one broke.

Doctors said there was nothing hospitals could do for her, which was surprising, because the mental health review tribunal had said treatment was appropriate. A probation officer said she just could not cope with her.

But the sentence had to fit the crime, which was breaking a flower pot, the judge said.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today Sun rises: 4.45 am. 9.22 pm. Moon sets: 11.42 pm. 11.42 pm. Last quarter: July 1. Lightning up: 9.52 pm to 4.15 am. High water: 1.00 am, 6.25 am, 7.00 am (22.9ft); 5.41 pm,











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# In the dead of the Truffle Season

by Patricia Highsmith



Illustration by Roblin W.

Samson, a large white pig in the prime of life, lived on a rambling old farm in the Lot region, not far from the grand old town of Cahors. Among the 15 or so other pigs on the farm was Samson's mother Georgia (so named because of a song the farmer Emile often heard on the television) but not Samson's grandmother, who had been hauled away, kicking and squealing, about a year ago and not Samson's father, who lived some kilometres away and arrived on a pick-up car a few times a year for brief visits. There were also countless piglets, some from Samson's mother, some not, through whom Samson disdainfully waded, if they were between him and a feed trough. Samson never bothered shoving even the adult pigs, in fact, because he was so big himself, he had merely to advance and his way was clear.

His white coat, somewhat thin and bristly on his sides, grew fine and silky on the back of his neck. Emile often squeezed Samson's neck with his rough fingers when boasting about Samson to another farmer, then he would kick Samson gently in his larded ribs. Usually Samson's back and sides were a grey crust of sun-dried mud, because he loved to roll in the mud of the unpassured farmland court and in the thicker mud of the pig pen by the barn. Cool mud was pleasant in sun southern summer, and for weeks on end, making the pig pen and the courtyard steam. Samson had seen two summers.

The greatest season of the year for Samson was the dead of winter, when he came out on his own as truffle-hunter. Emile and often his friend René, another farmer who sometimes took a pig, sometimes a dog with him, would stroll out with Samson on a rope lead of a Sunday morning, and walk for nearly two kilometres to where some oak trees grew in a small forest.

"Vas-y!" Emile would say as they entered the forest's edge, speaking however in the dialect of the region. Samson, perched on a bit of fallen log or annoyed by the long promenade, would take his time, even if he did happen to smell truffles at once at the base of a tree. An old belt of Emile's served as his collar, very little of its end hanging, so big was Samson's neck, and Samson could easily tug Emile in any direction he chose.

Emile would laugh in anticipation, and say something cheery to René, or to himself if he were alone, then pull from a pocket of his jacket the bottle of Armagnac he took along to keep the cold out.

The main reason Samson took his time about disclosing any truffles was that he never got to eat any. He did get a morsel of cheese as a reward, if he indicated a truffle spot, but cheese was not truffles, and Samson vaguely resented this.

"Huh-wah-uh!" said Samson, meaning absolutely nothing by it, wasting time as he sniffed at the foot of a tree which was not an appropriate tree in the first place.

Emile knew this, and gave Samson a kick, then blew on his free hand: his woollen gloves were full of holes, and it was a damned freezing day. He drew down his Gauloise, and pulled the collar of his turtle-neck sweater up over his mouth and nose.

Then Samson's nostrils filled with the delicate, rare aroma of black truffles, and he paused, snorting. The hairs on his back rose a little with excitement. His feet of their own accord

stomped, braced themselves, and his flat nose began to root at the ground. He drooled.

Emile was already tugging at the pig. He looped the rope a few times around a tree some distance away, then attacked the spot cautiously with the fork he had been carrying.

"Ah! A-hah!" There they were, a cluster of crinkly black fungus as wide as his hand. Emile put the truffles gently into the cloth knapsack that was swung over his shoulder. Such truffles were worth a hundred and thirty new francs the live in Cahors on the big market days, which were every other Saturday, and Emile got just a trifle less where he usually sold them, a Cahors delicacy shop which in turn sold the truffles to a pâté manufacturer called Compagnie de la Reine d'Aquitaine. Emile could have got a bit more by selling direct to La Reine d'Aquitaine, but their plant was the other side of Cahors, making the trip more expensive because of gasoline cost. Cahors, where Emile went every fortnight to buy animal feed and perhaps a tool replacement, was only 10 kilometres from his home.

Emile found with his fingers a bit of gruyère in his knapsack, and approached Samson with it. He tossed it on the ground in front of Samson, remembering Samson's teeth.

"Usshh!" Samson inhaled the cheese like a vacuum cleaner. He was ready for the next tree. The smell of truffles in the knapsack inspired him. They found two more good spots that morning before Emile decided to call it a day. They were hardly a kilometre from the Café de la Chasse, on the edge of Emile's home town of Cassouac, and the bar-café was on the way home. Emile stomped his feet a few times as he walked, and tugged at Samson impatiently.

"Hey, fasso! Samson!—Get a move on! Of course you're not in a hurry with all that late on you!" Emile kicked Samson on a back leg.

Samson pretended indifference, but condescended to trot for a few steps, then he lapsed into his odd dainty, I'll-take-my-time gait. Why should he hurry, why should he do everything to suit Emile? Also Samson knew where they were heading, knew he'd have a long wait outside in the cold while Emile drank and talked with his friends. There was the café in view now, with a few dogs tied up outside it. Samson's blood began to course a little faster. He could hold his own with a dog, and enjoyed doing so. Dogs thought they were so clever, so superior, but one lunge from Samson and they flinched and drew back as far as their leads permitted.

"Bonjour, Pierre! . . . Ha-ha-ha!" Emile had encountered the first of his cronies outside the café.

Pierre was tying up his dog, and had made some risible remark about Emile's chien de race.

"Never mind, I've got nearly a litre of truffles today!" Emile countered, exaggerating. The barks of Emile and Pierre sounded as Emile and Pierre went into the small café. Dogs were allowed in, but some dogs who might snarl at the others were always tied outside.

One dog nipped playfully at Samson's tail, and Samson turned and charged, in a leisurely way, not going far enough to make his rope taut, but the dog rolled over in his effort to escape. All three dogs barked, and to Samson it sounded derogatory towards him. Samson regarded the dogs with a sullen and calm antipathy. Only his pinkish little

eyes were quick, taking in all the dogs, daring them or any one of them to advance. The dogs smiled uneasily. At last Samson collapsed by leaning back and letting his legs fold under him. He was in the sun and comfortable enough despite the cold air. But he was hungry again, therefore a bit annoyed.

Emile had found René in the café, drinking pastis at the bar. Emile meant to linger until there was just time to walk home and not annoy his wife. Ursule, who liked Sunday dinner to start, was later than a quarter past noon.

René wore high rubber boots. He'd been cleaning a drain of his cowbarn, he said. He talked about the truffle-hunting contest that was to take place in two weeks. Emile did not hear of it.

"Look!" said René, pointing to a printed notice at the right of the door. La Compagnie de la Reine d'Aquitaine offered a first prize of a cuckoo clock plus a hundred francs, a second prize of a transistor radio (one couldn't tell the site from the picture), a third prize of fifty francs to the finders of the most truffles on Sunday, January 27. Local newspaper and television coverage was promised, and the town of Cassouac was to be the judges' base.

"I'm giving Lunache a rest this Sunday, maybe next too," René said. "That way she'll have time to work up a truffle appetite."

Lunache was René's best truffling pig, a black and white female. Emile smiled a little slyly at his friend as if to say, "You know very well Samson's better than Lunache!" Emile said, "That should be amusing. Let's hope it's not raining."

"Or snowing! Another pastis? I invite you!" René put some money on the counter.

Emile glanced at the clock on the wall and accepted.

When he went out ten minutes later, he saw that Samson had chased the three tied-up dogs to the extremity of their leads, and was pretending to strain at his rope—a sturdy rope, but Samson might have been able to break it with a good tug. Emile felt rather proud of Samson.

"This monster! He needs a muzzle!" said a youngish man in muddy riding boots, a man Emile didn't recognize. He was patting one of the dogs in a reassuring way.

Emile was ready to return a snarl of argument: hadn't the dog been annoying the pig first? But it crossed his mind that the young man might be a representative of La Reine d'Aquitaine come to look the dogs on the hind leg? Emile didn't tarry to look more closely. He untied Samson and ambled off. After all, Emile was thinking, he'd had Samson's lower tusks saved off three or four months ago. The tusks had started to grow higher than his snout. His upper tusks were still with him, but they were so dangerous because they curved inward.

Samson, in a vaguer though angrier way, was also thinking about his teeth at that moment. If he hadn't been mysteriously deprived of his rightful lower tusks long ago, he could have torn that nose up. One upward sweep of his nose under the dog's belly, which in fact Samson had given . . . Samson's breath steamed in the air. His

four-toed feet, only the two middle toes on each foot touching the ground, bore him along as if his great bulk were light as a white balloon. Now Samson was leading like a thoroughbred dog straining at the leash.

Emile, knowing Samson was angry, gave him serious and firm tugs. Emile's hand hurt, and as soon as they neared the open gate of the farm's court, Emile gladly released the rope. Samson went straight towards the pig pen where the food was. Emile opened the low gate for him, followed Samson's galloping figure, and unbuckled the belt collar while Samson guzzled potato peelings.

"Oink!—Oink-oink!" "Oink!—Oink-oink!" "Whuff!"

The other pigs and piglets fell back from Samson.

Emile went into the kitchen. His wife was just setting a big platter of cold diced beets and carrots, sliced tomatoes and onions in the centre of the table. Emile gave a greeting which included Ursule, their son Henri, and his wife Yvonne and their little one Jean-Paul. Henri helped a bit on the farm, though he was a full-time worker in a Cahors factory that made Formica sheets. Henri was not fond of him and his family to live here than to take an apartment or buy a house just now.

"Good truffling?" asked Henri, with a glance at the sack.

Emile was just emptying the contents of the sack into a pan of cold water in the sink. "Not bad," said Emile.

"Ear, Emile," said Ursule.

"I'll wash them later."

Emile sat down and began eating. He started to tell them about the truffle-hunting contest, then decided it might be too late to mention it. There were still two weeks in which to mention it, if he felt like it. Emile was imagining the cuckoo clock fixed on the wall in front of him, striking about now the quarter hour past twelve. And he would say a few words to the television (if it was true that there would be television), and he would have his picture in the local newspaper.

The main reason Emile did not take Samson truffling the following weekend was that he did not want to diminish the amount of truffles in that particular forest. This forest was known as "the little-forest-down-the-slope" and was owned by an old man who did not even live on his land any more but in a nearby town. The old man had never objected to truffle-hunting on his land, nor had the current caretakers who lived in the farmhouse nearly a kilometre away from the forest.

So Samson had a leisurely fortnight of eating and of sleeping in the scoop of hard-packed hay in the pig shed, which was a lean-to against the main barn. On the big day, January 27, Emile shaved. Then he made his way to the Café de la Chasse in the village. The meeting point. Here was René and eight or 10 other men, all of whom Emile knew and nodded a greeting to. There were also a few boys and girls of the village come to watch. They were all laughing, smoking, pretending it was a silly game, but Emile knew that inside each man with a truffle-dog or truffle-pig was a determination to win first prize, and if not first then second. Samson showed a desire to attack Georges' dog Caspar, and Emile had to tug at him

and kick him. Just as Emile had suspected, the young man here! Emile kicked Samson where his testicles would have been, if Emile had not had them removed at the same time as Samson's lower tusks.

Samson retaliated by charging Emile at knee level. Emile fell forward over the rushing pig, and barely had time to protect his face from the ground. The pain in his knees was agonizing. He was afraid for a few seconds that his legs had been broken. Then he heard François yelling with indignation. Samson was loose again and was invading François' digging place.

"Hey, Emile! You're going to be disqualified! Get this god-damn pig away from me! Get him—or I'll shoot him!"

Emile knew that François had no gun. Emile got to his feet carefully. His legs were not broken, but his eyes felt awful from the shock, and he knew he'd have a pair of prize shiners by tomorrow. "Damn you, Samson, get the hell away!" Emile yelled, trudging towards François and the two pigs. François was now whacking at Samson with a tree branch he had found, and Emile couldn't blame François.

"A hell of a way to . . ." François's words were lost very quickly with François' Malbert, and he knew François would try to disqualify him, if he possibly could, mainly because Samson was an excellent truffle hunter and presented a threat. This thought, however, concentrated Emile's anger more on Samson for the moment than on François. Emile pulled at Samson's rope, yanked it hard, and François came down at the same time with the branch on Samson's head, and the branch broke.

Samson charged again, and Emile suddenly nimbly in desperation, looped the end of the rope a couple of times around a tree. Samson was jerked off his feet.

"No use digging any more here! That's not fair!" François said, indicating his half-eaten truffle bee. "Ah, out! It's an accident!" Emile retorted.

But François was trudging away, in the direction of the Café de la Chasse.

Emile now had the little forest to himself. He set about gathering what was left of François' truffle find. But he was afraid he was going to be disqualified. All because of Samson.

"Now get to work, you bastard!" Emile said to Samson, and hit him on the rump with a short piece of the branch that had broken.

Samson still stared at Emile, facing him, in case another blow was coming.

Emile groped for a piece of cheese in his sack, and tossed it on the ground as an act of appeasement, also to whet Samson's appetite, perhaps. Samson did look as angry as a pig could look.

Samson snuffed up the cheese.

"Let's go, boy!" Emile said. Samson got moving, but very slowly. He simply walked. He wasn't even sniffing the ground. Emile fancied that Samson's shoulders were hunched in anger, that he was ready to charge again. But that was absurd, he told himself. Emile pulled Samson towards a promising birch tree.

Samson smelled the truffles

in Emile's sack. His saliva was still running from the truffles he had gobbled up from the hole in the ground. Samson turned with agility and pressed his nose against the sack at Emile's side. Samson had stood up a little on his hind legs, and his weight knocked Emile down. Samson poked his nose into the sack. What a blissful smell! He began to eat. There was cheese too.

Emile, on his feet now, jabbed at Samson with his fork, hard enough to break the skin in three places where the truffles sank. "Get away, you bastard!"

Samson did leave the sack, but only to rush at Emile. Crack! He hit Emile's knees again. The man lay on the ground, trying to bring his fork into position for striking, and in a flash Samson charged.

Somehow the pig's belly hit Emile in the face, or the point of his chin, and Emile was knocked half unconscious. He shook his head, and made sure he still had a good grip on his fork. He had suddenly realized that Samson could and might kill him, if he didn't protect himself.

"An secours!" Emile yelled. "Help!"

Emile brandished the fork at Samson, intending to scare the pig off while he got to his feet. Samson had no intention, except to protect himself. He saw the fork as an enemy, a very clear challenge, and he blindly asked and dropped as if limp. Samson's front hooves stood triumphant on Emile's abdomen. Samson snorted. And Emile gasped, but only a few times.

The awful pink and damp nose of the pig was almost in Emile's face, and he recalled from childhood many pigs he had known, pigs who had seemed to him as gigantic as this Samson now crushing the breath out of him. Pig's snout, all patterns and colouring seemed to combine and become this one monstrous Samson who most certainly—Emile now knew it—was going to kill him, just by standing on him. The fork was out of reach. Emile flinched his arms with his last strength, but the pig wouldn't budge. And Emile could not gasp one breath of longer. Emile thought, this pig, but an awful, evil force in a most hideous form. Those tiny, stupid eyes in the grotesque flesh! Emile tried to call out and found that he couldn't make as much noise as a small bird.

When the man became quiet, Samson stepped off his body and nuzzled him in the side to get at the truffle sack again. Samson was calming down a bit. He no longer held his breath, or panted, as he had done alternately for the last minutes, but began to breathe normally. The heavenly scent of truffles further soothed him. He snuffed, sighed, inhaled, ate his snout and tongue seeking out the last morsels from the corners of the khaki sack. And all his own gleamings! But this thought came now at all clearly to Samson. In fact, he had a vague feeling that he was going to be shoved away from his banquet, yet who was there to shove him away now? This very special sack, into which he had seen so many black truffles vanishing, out of which had come so many delicious morsels of yellow cheese—all that was finished, and now the sack was his. Samson even ate some of the cloth.

Then, still chewing, he urinated. He listened, and looked around, and felt quite secure

and in command of things, least of himself. He could anywhere he chose, and chose to walk away from the village of Cassouac. He took a bit, then walked, and sidetracked by the scent of more truffles. It took Samson some time to dig them up, it was glorious work, and reward was his own. Emile, superbly crinkled, came to a stream, a little c at the edges with ice, drank. He went on, dia his rope, not caring where went. He was hungry again. Hunger impelled him to a group of low build whence he smelled child dung and the manure of h or cows. Samson strolled little diffidently into cobbled courtyard where pigeons and chickens w about. They made way for him. Samson was used to rough. He found a trough some wet bread in it, though. He ate. Then he lapsed against a stack of half sheltered by a ro was now dark.

From the two lighter downs in the lower part house near by came mu voices, sounds of an ur household.

As dawn broke, the v ing, pecking chickens courtyard and near Sam not really awaken him dozed on, and only ope eye sleepily when he he gritty tread of a man.

"Ho-hai!" What have here?" murmured the peering at the enormo pig lying in his yd dangled from the pig's door. This one must be from a long way. The rope was frayed.

The farmer Alphonse to keep his mouth sh more or less hiding Sa a few days in a back hi was enclosed. Alphon him soon forward once mor him join the pigs he black ones. He wasn't ing the white pig, he and if anyone came lo such a pig, he could pte had simply wande his land, which was t he would give the pi course, after being s quier knew that the t usks had been sewn Meanwhile Alphonse selling him out at t ing before the winter. He'd try the trufflin Samson grew a li and dominated the two sows and their food was slightly di more abundant than farm. Then came t ordinary working day to Samson from the farm—when he was a lead to go to the truffles. Samson tr in good spirits. He eat a few truffles to finding them for the where in his brain, already thinking th from the start sh that he was not to

This story is taken from *Animal Lover's Book of Murders*, by Patricia Highsmith, published by Putnam on June 30.

© Patricia H.















## Special Offer Food for thought

There are many proprietary fertilizers. Many gardeners, especially specialist growers of different plants, have their own favourites and even make up their own mixtures to their favourite formulae. Most of us, however, for general use in the garden, the greenhouse, or on pot plants in the home, are happy to use one general fertilizer, especially if it is not an expensive product.

One well worth considering is Phostrogen, the subject of this special offer. It is indeed very economical—you get several gallons of liquid feed for 1p. I have used it with success on many crops over a number of years, both as a soil feed and as a foliar or leaf feed.

This year particularly, leaf feeding and feeding generally are important. The cold nights at the end of May and early in June checked many of the more tender plants such as tomatoes, runner beans, and dahlias, and a few foliar feeds would help them to recover, and stimulate root growth. The heavy rains of last autumn and winter washed plant nutrients down below the reach of the roots, so soil feeding is more than usually important.

Phostrogen is a soluble fertilizer. It may be applied in the dry powdered form, and then watered in with a hose or sprinkler, or washed in by rain. Or it may be dissolved in water and applied as a

liquid, and thus reach the plant roots more quickly. Many gardeners are now mixing their own soil-less compounds of peat and sand, ground chalk and Phostrogen. It is excellent for lawns and, again, may be applied dry and watered in.

Roses respond well to it both as a soil and foliar feed, but foliar feeding should cease when the plants begin to flower. Vegetables—tomatoes, marrow, beans particularly—marrows, beans particularly, and fruit thrive on it, and it is recommended by 19 specialist horticultural societies, including those devoted to dahlias, geraniums, carnations, begonias, fuchsias, delphiniums, sweet peas, saint-paulias, house plants and cacti.

This plastic tub of fertilizer will make 1,326 gallons of liquid feed—that is, 6.34 gallons for 1p—exceptionally good value. The tub, when empty, is also handy for various purposes. Phostrogen, claimed by the makers to be Britain's most economical plant food, is available in smaller packs in many retail shops, but these larger and more economical buckets are not so widely stocked.

Each pack will contain a leaflet giving instructions for the various uses of Phostrogen. Inquiries, not orders, should be addressed to David Sharpe, Room N609, Times Newspapers Limited, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. R. H.



Photograph by Trevor Sutton. Watering cans courtesy of Geeco Ltd.

Garden economy with Phostrogen:  
this giant pack provides for all your needs, and any left-overs  
can be stored until next year.

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## Gardening

### Paving the way

These days we have so many ingenious and effective aids to gardening that we tend to pay less attention than did our parents or grandparents to the way things are ordered by nature. We are probably less green-fingered than they were because we have not had, or made, the time to study our plants, how they grow and, maybe more important, where they like to grow.

It is not a bad thing to move a plant to another spot if it is not flourishing where you originally planted it, and then give a year or two to see whether it is happier in its new lodgings. Of course, one overdoes this business of shifting plants around. I remember my father's despair, when he returned from periodic visits to Fort Belvedere, because some friend of King Edward VIII, or the Prince of Wales as he then was, had persuaded him to move various shrubs and plants around just as they were taking hold and growing nicely. One year they planted thousands of daffodils, and because somebody thought they were too near the house, the whole lot were lifted and moved a few yards farther back the next year.

But the observant gardener will see not only in his own garden, but in others he may visit, how a plant succeeds in different positions of sun or shade. Probably as important as these considerations is the question of drainage. Many plants, notably cacti, cannot bear to lie wet in winter, or even to have "wet soil" around their necks—the point where the stems leave the ground—for weeks on end. In their native habitat they are probably covered with snow all winter. When the snow melts it runs away quickly.

Often seeds fall in favourable places, or are left by birds on the top of walls where drainage is rapid. My neighbour has a retaining wall on top of which are growing arabis and aubrieta. The seeds fall on to a sloping tarmac drive and are washed down on to the footpath in front of the house. There is a tiny crack in the tarmac of an inch wide between the tarmac on the footpath and the wall and many seeds are washed into this. They grow and flourish.

How often have we tried to persuade plants to grow in cracks between stones in a wall and failed. Even so, it is worth trying. Wrap one or two seeds of say arabis, arabis, aubrieta, campanula, valerian, or whatever, in little balls of moist soil, and push them into the crevices. Some may grow.

Last week I wrote about stone sinks and how one can use them for plants that like different conditions—of soil,

light or shade. Crazy paving or, as the paving experts prefer to call it, broken paving, is not only attractive in the less formal type of garden, but it provides a home for many charming rock plants in pockets of soil between the stones. Rain drains away quickly, and the crown of the plant is less prone to rotting than in an ordinary rock garden.

If you have only a small garden, a tiny lawn is more of a nuisance than an asset. If it is replaced with paving, much easier to maintain, you can find room for dozens of charming plants between the stones.

Some of them are tough enough to withstand being trodden on occasionally, but one should leave a fairway for pedestrian traffic between the plants. Some of my favourites for paving planting are the various forms of *Thymus serpyllum*, especially *Bressingham* with pink flowers, and *Lanuginosus* with grey woolly foliage and pink flowers. These are mat-forming thymes, but even the bushy varieties like *T. vulgaris* *Aureus* and *Aureus Variegatus*, gold, and green with a golden edge, respectively, are charming.

Another favourite of mine is *T. citridorus* Silver Queen with lemon-scented silvery leaves and pink flowers. It makes a bush about 9in high.

But there are many more easygoing plants for paving, including the thrifts, varieties of *armeria*, *anemarrhis*, *Lippia canescens*, *Dianthus*, *Dracopis* forms, dwarf *achilleas*.

and the silvery *Santolina incana* which keeps to a shapely mound if cut really hard back every spring.

Of course, the dwarf *Hypericum olympicum*, and the common but no less desirable *Iberis gibraltarica*, *aubrieta* and *Alpsium saxatile* will grow well between the paving stones.

The weather so far in 1975 is already going down in the memory of gardeners as being highly unreasonable. After trying to lull us into a state of euphoria with the exceptionally mild weather early in the year, it turned cold in March and April and delivered exceptionally cruel frosts in May and into June. Not content with all this, contrariness we have had little rain in many parts of the country since mid May.

Of course, such is the capriciousness of our weather that before the ink is dry on these words we may be in for a wet spell. If not, and you have to water, here are a few reminders of the helpful rules. Water in the evening or at night if possible. Watering during the day is not harmful, merely wasteful of water as more will evaporate in warm sunshine.

Put plenty on; far better to water one plant with 2 gallons to the square yard—than just to wet the surface of a much larger area.

Give priority to young seedlings or young transplants, also to trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants planted in the past six to nine months.

## Jobs for July

● Cut lawns lightly in hot dry weather, and if very hot and dry allow the cuttings to lie on the grass. Take good care of new young growths on climbing roses. Tie them to a cane as soon as they are two feet or more long. They are easily broken away by heavy thunder showers.

● Keep herbaceous plants *chrysanthemum* plants, well staked. Disbud *chrysanthemums* and a few stems on dahlias plants to get good blooms and long elegant stems if you want them as cut flowers.

● Remove "dead" flowers to prevent plants wasting energy in forming seed, and to encourage further flowers. Particularly with sweet peas, do not allow faded flowers to remain on the plant.

● As runner beans and marrows come into use, do not allow any beans or marrows to grow too large. This will discourage further cropping. Remove any beans too large for use and put them on the compost heap.

● Make a last sowing of carrot seeds in the next few days. Sow carrots, more dwarf and runner beans, cabbages, lettuce, radishes and turnips.

● Plant out cabbages, cauliflowers, kale, sprouting broccoli and leeks.

● Line out seedlings of wall flowers, myosotis, sweet williams, Canterbury bells and other biennials. Space them about 8in apart in rows a foot apart.

● Cut off the old foliage of strawberry plants after the harvest. They have been gathered, runners regularly removed, runners regularly gathered, giving them a "sharp" cut. For some of the strongest plantlets, if you wish to increase the stock. The first plantlet on a runner is the best.

● Remove unwanted plants, weeds, and any plants leaving the strongest to be tie in at about a foot apart.

● Prune black currants as soon as the fruits have been gathered.

Roy Ha...

## Travel

### In search of gentle pleasures

The Earl of Bothwell is remarkably well preserved for a man of his age—getting on for 450 years—and you really should pay him a visit when you are in Farewell. Farewell is a village on the west coast of Zealand which, to tell the truth, is hardly likely to figure in any itinerary drawn up by a travel agent. Like so much else in Denmark the village and its noble inhabitant provide an unexpected detour on your journey from Copenhagen or Kalundborg, or wherever you happen to be staying.

James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, husband of Mary Queen of Scots, and a probable murderer of Lord Darnley, was imprisoned by King Frederik II, first at Malmö in Sweden, then at Dragsholm. Chained to a pillar in his dungeon for five years, he slowly went mad and died in 1578. His mummified body lies in a glass covered coffin at Farewell church. Dragsholm Castle, just three miles away, is now an hotel where, for around £15 a night, you may occupy a splendid double room and ponder on the terrible fate of that former "guest".

I encountered Bothwell several years ago during a meandering motor tour of Denmark. My first visit which enabled me to sample its varied delights and realise how much enjoyment can be gained by the independent traveller. A very high proportion of British visitors to Denmark on one of the DFDS ferry services from Harwich or Newcastle upon Tyne to Esbjerg. And most of these take their cars with them, intending to tour or travel to holiday cottages and farmhouse accommodation. Last Tuesday marked the 100th anniversary of the company's service between Britain and Denmark, which began with the paddle steamer *Riberhus* carrying 28 passengers. Last week the 12,200-ton *Dana Regina* was introduced on the Harwich-Esbjerg route, carrying 878 passengers and 250 cars. In conjunction with the 8,600-ton *Winston Churchill*, she will provide a daily service until the end of August, while on the Newcastle-Esbjerg route, the 8,100-ton *England* sails each Sunday.

Motoring, farmhouse and self-catering holidays are most popular, and all are available in package form. There are a number in the DFDS brochure, as well as in those issued by tour companies. Farmhouse holidays cost around £30 a head, a price which provides a week on a Danish farm with breakfast and an evening meal and, of course, the return ferry crossings. The farmhouse holidays represent remarkable value for money and there is



one deal which combines a week on a farm with three nights in Copenhagen for around £75. Another Danish holiday idea which has been taken up with remarkable enthusiasm is the self-catering summer bungalow. One holiday village, situated in woodland just north of Hals, is some 25 miles from Copenhagen and is available to those who bring their own cars or who prefer to travel by ferry and train within Denmark.

A family of five, travelling with their own car, would pay a total of £280 for a 10-day holiday, giving them a week at the holiday village. That is the high season (June 20 to August 15) price, with £22 deducted for each child between four and 12-years-old. The same holiday, using rail travel, costs a total of £320, with the child reduction in this case being £26 each.

Without making spectacular changes or beating an incessant promotional drum, Denmark is achieving much success in attracting tourists from Britain. According to Eiler Hansen, the Tourist Board's United Kingdom director, the secret of his country's success is no secret at all. In the first place it provides a range of holidays to suit many tastes and in the second it is a vice, until the end of August, readily identify. In 1974 the number of visitors from Britain increased by 14 per cent over the previous year and it looks certain that this will be maintained, or even surpassed in 1975, with around 320,000 visitors.

Very many of these—and especially the first-time tourists—will spend at least part of their holiday in Copenhagen and I know from recent experience that the Danish capital is well-equipped to provide its guests with gentle pleasures.

person buys the return air trip and a week in a double room with breakfast each morning—but Copenhagen, like the rest of Denmark, can be expensive. Our own inflation, however, makes it seem more reasonable than a year or two ago. (If you are looking ahead to winter, incidentally, Copenhagen is included in some tour companies' "short break" arrangements. Thompson's, for example, will be offering weekends for between £50 and £55.)

I mentioned earlier the advantage of independent transport in Denmark, and anyone who wants a holiday involving some healthy exercise can find such independence on two wheels. Cycling holidays have caught on remarkably well since their introduction three or four years ago. A dozen organized tours are available, at prices which include accommodation in youth hostels, hotels or inns.

Details of the organized tours, the addresses of tourist bureaux, etc. are contained in a pamphlet issued by the Danish Tourist Board in London. The high season price of a "package" cycling tour round Funen, for example, is £113—which covers the return ferry trip between Harwich

and Esbjerg, second class rail travel to Svendborg, the hire of the cycle, and full board accommodation in hotels along the seven-day route.

On my various journeys in Denmark, I have been able to sample this type of holiday, well as travel around the country by car, staying country inns, which are invariably excellent. I have travelled, too, with holidaymakers on a coach tour—the "Fare Tale Tour" which takes Hans Andersen's birthplace.

All these holidays, as well as tours for fishermen and others, are available in Denmark.

As with cycling holiday comprehensive leaflet on ing is available from Danish Tourist Board's Lo office. In fact, it is well obtaining a complete set of board's information material. Write to: The Danish Tourist Board, Sceptre House, 16 Regent Street, London, 8PY.

John Ca...

## Wine for around 25p a bottle! That's all it costs when you make your own



Yes, Home Winemaking can save you money. And today that makes a lot of sense. So before you buy another bottle of wine, make some of your own. It's so easy. Look, we'll show you how—and give you some helpful hints too.

Here's how to collect your winemaking basics.

Simply start with a Boots Winemaking Beginners Kit (illustrated opposite)—it's got all the equipment and ingredients except sugar and water for your first gallon of wine. Plus easy-to-follow instructions. Just one important point, before you start it's essential to sterilize all equipment.

Now you're ready to begin

● Mix ingredients in the demi-john—one gallon glass vessel. (Just follow the kit instructions).

● Add yeast

● Seal with fermentation lock. While your wine is fermenting, you'll need to keep the temperature fairly constant—although not essential, a thermostatic heater can be a great help.

After about 10 days you will need to—

● Add further small quantity of sugar.

● Fill container with water up to one gallon and re-insert fermentation lock.

Now you can leave the wine to ferment—this will take about six weeks and you can usually tell when fermentation is complete by the gradual ending of bubbles through the fermentation lock. A handy gadget called an hydrometer is available to confirm that fermentation is complete.

Right, now for the next simple stage.

● Add one campden tablet.

● Leave the wine to settle and clear. This takes a little time, so if you'd like to speed up the clearing process you can do so with a Filter Kit and a second sterilized demi-john. (Instructions come with the Filter Kit).

Now, you're up to the finishing touches

● Syphon the cleared wine into sterilized bottles.

● Seal with bottle corks—and it's even easier with a corking machine.

And if you want your bottles to look really professional—cover the top and neck with foil capsules. A capsuler makes the job easy. And add labels with wine type and date.

All you need now is a little patience.

Wait about 3 months to let your wine mature—the longer the maturing, the better the bouquet. In the meantime, you can select your next grape juice concentrate from any of a wide variety of different wine types. That's it then. Once the 3 months is up, invite a few friends around for a wine and cheese tasting, open your wine, and... GOOD HEALTH!

The basic instructions given above are a general guide to the principles of home wine making—individual manufacturer's instructions may vary slightly.  
\*Based on the current average costs of concentrated grape juice, yeast and sugar for one gallon of wine.

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Also CWE Standard Grape Juice Concentrates—wide variety of wine types. FROM 99p

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This is the Kit that makes it easy to start making your own wine. It's got everything you need (except sugar and water) to make your first gallon of wine. After that, you need only replenish a few ingredients.

ONLY £3.05

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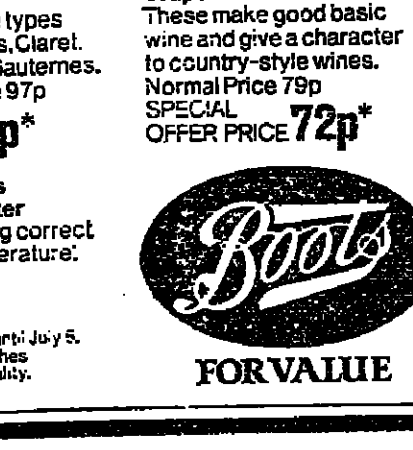
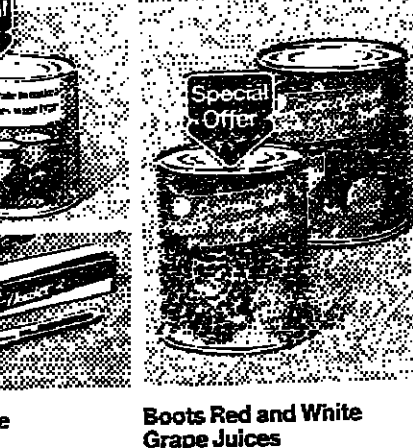
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Unican Grape Juice Concentrates

Many different wine types including Beaujolais, Claret, Liebfraumilch and Sauternes.

Boots Normal Price 97p

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Boots Winemakers Thermostatic Heater

Ideal for maintaining correct fermentation temperature. ONLY £2.30

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These make good basic wine and give a character to country-style wines.

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\*At these special prices until July 5. From larger Boots branches subject to stock availability.

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## Using the moon to predict earthquakes

Considerable effort has been made to establish a reliable method of earthquake prediction, particularly in earthquake-prone areas such as California and Japan. These areas have elaborate instruments for early warning so that the first signs of impending activity are recorded. Warnings could be given 12 hours ahead of a possible major earthquake in the area.

While such an approach is useful in the area concerned, Dr Trevor Richards feels that the problem of earthquake prediction should be tackled worldwide on another basis and take into account all recorded and listed earthquakes of magnitude greater than 3.0 on the Richter scale.

Usually only large earthquakes, about two or three a year, are recorded by the news media, but several thousand earthquakes of a magnitude greater than 3 Richter are listed every year and these could be of significance in relation to engineering construction, such as dams and mining activity.

Dr Richards suggests starting from looking at the earth as an oblate flattened spheroid with a soft interior and a thin and fragile solid crust. The deviation of the earth's shape from a perfect sphere is due to its own rotation. Whereas the soft interior can change its shape plastically or continuously, the thin crust is elastically strained or in a state of tension created by pressure due to rotation and an opposite gravitational attraction associated with the extra mass at the equator: this condition of hoop tension is a bit like that created on the walls of a circular beaker or tank containing solid or liquid. Disturbances initiate an earthquake.

A mathematical analysis of the change of shape of the earth from a perfect sphere shows regions which are under strain and liable to sudden shearing. Two main regions of seismic activity, the Alpine and Circum-Pacific regions, fit this idea.

By inspection of earthquake distribution and certain physical features like the west coast of Sumatra, four regions of shear have been identified. All four sets have a common N-S axis of rotational symmetry, and have a special relationship that suggests earthquakes may be initiated by large crustal tides.

Crustal tides, like ocean tides, are at a maximum at new or full moon when the sun and moon are in conjunction or in opposition respectively: coincidentally, the mean sun-moon zenith at the precise time of new or full moon follow the terrestrial shear pattern. If earthquakes are initiated in the thin fragile crust by large crustal tides then earthquakes which occur in any new or full moon period are most likely to be near those of an earlier new or full moon period of corresponding mean sun-moon zenith.

Of the 84 earthquakes reported for the seven day lunar period about the new moon of periods of January, 1972, are January 23, 1974, 56 (67 per cent) were located within 3° of the nearest earthquake of the full moon period of January 30, 1972, while 66 (or nearly 80 per cent) were within the 3° limit when earthquakes of both the full moon and new moon periods of January, 1972, are taken into consideration.

Since the largest earthquakes of any lunar period are reported as after shocks in subsequent lunar periods then practically all earthquakes should be predictable.

It is thus possible to predict the most probable lunar periods of earthquake activity for any region over the earth's surface: a computer programme has been designed using the list of epicentres of earthquakes of magnitude about 6 for 1973 and predictions are being prepared for 1975.

Predictions have been made for earthquakes associated with the full moon of June 23 and the new moon of July 9. Disturbances at two-thirds of the most probable locations should have happened between June 20 to 26 for the first period, and are likely to occur between July 6 to 12 for the second.

The remainder take place in the week between July 13 and 19 in three of all earthquakes are attributed to after-shocks from the two previous lunar periods: therefore they tend to be of low intensity. However a large earthquake is possible at a location not considered a probable site during the preceding lunar periods.

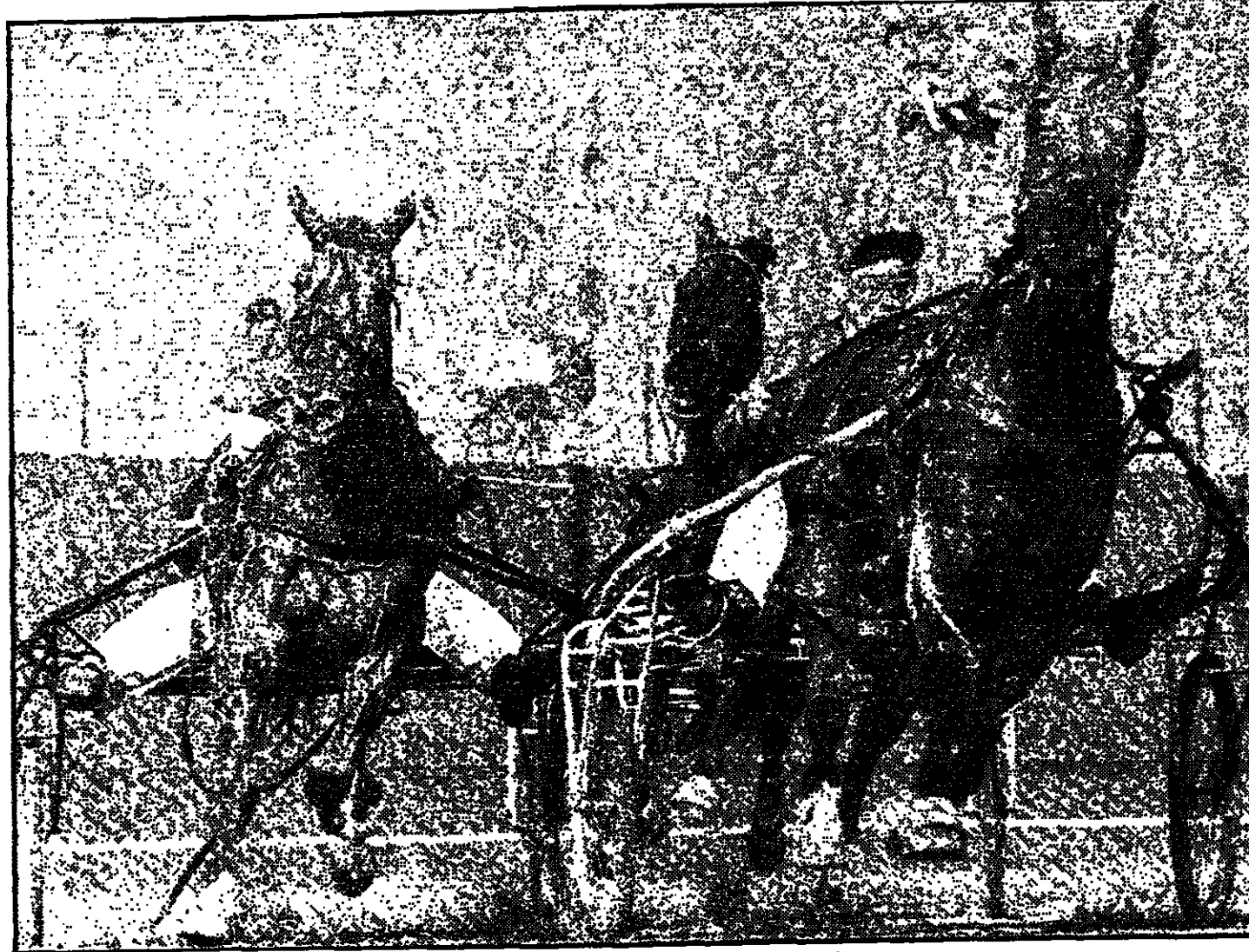
A few of the important sites covered by the predictions are listed below.

Earthquakes associated with the full moon of June 23, 1975: Kamchatka (54.3N, 161.6E; 53.6N, 160.5E), Philippines (13.4N, 122.8E; 12.2N, 123.3E; 11.5N, 121.4E; 10.3N, 123.3E; 9.2N, 121.6E; 6.3N, 122.3E). New Guinea (3.0S, 139.3E; 3.5S, 145.9E; 4.4S, 144E; 4.5S, 144E; 10.0S, 150.2E). New Britain (6.9S, 150.0E). New Ireland (3.7S, 152.1E). Easter Is. (17.4N, 107.0W). S Atlantic Ridge (35.5S, 16.2W).

Earthquakes associated with the new moon of July 9, 1975: Bonin Is (28.2N, 139.2E). Burma/India (24.3N, 93.5E). Nicobar (7.0N, 91.4E). New Ireland (3.7S, 152.1E). Solomon Is (6.2S, 154.5E; 8.8S, 161.0E; 11.1S, 162.3E). S California (34.1N, 119.0W). Mexico (18.3N, 96.6W; 18.5N, 102.7W). SW Atlantic (38.3S, 13.4W). Spain (37.0N, 3.6W). Bay of Bengal (7.1N, 84.3E).

Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

## Catching on fast, the non-stop thrills of the harness racers



Trotters thunder round the track at Welwyn Garden City. Battles for inside position are so fierce that collisions often seem inevitable

Standard-breds, but there are huge chunks of Britain where the pace is unknown. The Dublin Spring stage the largest one-day gathering in

standard-breds, but there are huge chunks of Britain where the pace is unknown. The Dublin Spring stage the largest one-day gathering in

Ireland, and only horses of proven ability are allowed to compete there.

In the United States the first pacer to win a million dollars was Cardigan Bay. Records show a three-minute mile by Boston Blue, a gelding, in 1918, and steadily improve times throughout the nineteenth century, culminating in the two-minute barrier being broken by a mare, Lou Dillon, in 1903. Today's world record stands at 1 min 52 sec in a time trial and 1 min 53 sec in a race time, both in the United States. Britain's record of 2 min 04 sec illustrates the advances still to be made here.

Such feats are not achieved from a standing start. Horses and drivers circle the arena, and are called up into order by loudspeaker, grouped or singly according to handicap. A wide white gate fixed to the

back of a motor vehicle waits at the starting line, taking off at speed as the pacers approach. Starting out of order or too quickly leads to disqualification, while a tardy start leads to greatly lowered chances. Battle for inside position is so fierce that collisions often appear inevitable, and for the light sulkies such a clash is disastrous.

As the bell sounds for the last lap, the pace increases, hands are taken tighter than ever, and the black and gold, royal blue or maroon of drivers blend into a confusion of colours. A succession of beats ensures constant action throughout the programme, with no long gaps between races, which is but one reason for the growing popularity of harness racing in Britain.

Edward Hart

## Keeping young offenders out of prison

The need for a proper strategy to reduce numbers in British prisons is acute. Increasing crime is overfilling and there is pessimism that, as places reform and rehabilitation, they have failed.

More than half the men and women imprisoned for 18 months or more in the United Kingdom commit another crime and are back inside within two years. For young offenders the figure may run as high as 80 per cent.

Against such figures as these, quoted by Dennis Briggs in *In Place of Prison* (published this week), the effort so far made to provide adequate alternatives is puny, though he pays tribute to the way the Home Office is putting up money for voluntary projects.

So when Mr Briggs promises that the prison population of any country could be halved in a year, he is worth listening to. He is an American of boundless optimism, and has been involved in experiments which have led to some of the strategies he describes, notably in

training young offenders in social work, thus breaking the trend towards increasing criminality that comes from repeated prison sentences.

California has halved the number of teenagers in jail, Florida is close behind, and Massachusetts has not used youth prisons since 1972. The Soviet Union and the Netherlands have also cut youth imprisonment.

The methods, Mr Briggs, says, lie somewhere between the general amnesty, called for by some of the more radical reform and activist groups, and ordered control in the community. The cost, in 1972, to this country for keeping teenagers in borstals was more than £2,000 each—more than the cost of sending a boy to Eton, he adds.

Yet, seven out of 10 of these young people will be re-arrested and confined again within two years—and of those one out of two will serve yet another prison sentence or more on to prison; two out of three already had been confined in

an institution; one in three had more than five previous proved offences; and only one in 11 had no known trouble with the law.

Mr Briggs says that facilities in the United Kingdom for working constructively with young people are practically non-existent. Nothing the failure, so far, fully to use opportunities presented by the 1969 Children and Young Persons Act and later the Younger Act, he adds: "There seems little choice but to continue incarcerating young people unless an alternative can be worked out in the community. He sees this to be an area in which voluntary bodies could come to the fore."

One of the most promising innovations in this country has been the community service scheme, which gives yet another alternative to probation officers. In California, legislation provided funds for local probation services to try new attempts at keeping offenders out of prison. The services were reimbursed, additionally,

for their successes, the money being saved by not keeping people in prison.

By the seventh year of the scheme, the proportion of youths and adults sent to prison had been cut by half. Instead, 21 per cent more were placed on probation. The rate of failure for the first 17,000 who were placed under special probation supervision instead of going to prison was 19 per cent, compared with a range of 27-31 per cent for those who received regular supervision during the period.

Two prisons for adults and five youth camps were closed during this first seven years. All new prison construction was cancelled. Two new, high security youth prisons which were completed were not used. The key to reducing numbers in prison is the provision and use of enough alternatives. The National Conference on Criminal Justice, meeting in Washington early in 1973, produced recommendations that, Mr Briggs says, could halve

numbers in prison in America in a decade.

In the Manhattan court Employment Project, set up in 1967, help with personal and family problems, finding jobs and training, where needed, was given over an average period of four months to 238 people in a year. Forty-three per cent of them had been accused of crimes punishable by more than one year in prison, just under 12 per cent of those who received assistance were rearrested in the next year, compared with more than 45 per cent of those who had a comparable background, but were not given the same help, coming before the same court. Two per cent were arrested more than once, compared with one third of the other group.

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent  
*In Place of Prison* by Dennis Briggs is published by Maurice Temple Smith Ltd, in association with New Society. £1.90 paperback; £3.50 cased.

George Hutchinson

## Bursting the gloom bubble

I should like to say something to those who have to expect to be being accused of undue sentimentality or of living in a fool's paradise. But perhaps you will bear with me while I try.

Although I am no economist I cannot believe or accept that every description cannot be foredoomed to failure. It must be able to succeed—given the right leadership.

But leadership has been lacking, or at best inadequate, in recent years. Neither of the ruling parties has any reason to crow over the other. Both have failed us to the extent that while in government they have fallen short of their opportunities. They have not risen to their true responsibilities.

For my part, I am prepared to allow that the present Prime Minister may still be able to provide what is needed for national recovery. Mr Wilson has the capacity, if only he will exercise it to the full.

Besides being an unusually clever man, he is the most accomplished and experienced parliamentarian of the day. More than that, he is in tune with a vast number of ordinary people. They like him. Whether you care for him or not, there can be no denying that Mr Wilson has a natural affinity with a good part of the country. He possesses, in the hands of a man who can always draw on invaluable reserves of personal goodwill, particularly in the north.

His own colleagues know

frather than the defects of our parliamentary system. Extend the catalogue for yourself—and take heart from its strength and diversity. A nation so rich in historic achievement, tangible possessions and personal talents of every description cannot be foredoomed to failure. It must be able to succeed—given the right leadership.

If he can rise to the challenge of events and meet the universal longing for confident guidance and direction, firmly applied but fair in spirit and rational in intent, then he is assured of the right response. By acting in accordance with his own best instincts he could scarcely fail, given the authority of his office, to refresh the country, dispel at least some of the prevailing gloom, and open up a brighter prospect. Labour's defeat in the West Woolwich by-election will no doubt provide an additional spur.

To my mind, and fortified by the knowledge that I am in good company, there is nothing complacent or naive in thinking this. As the Queen said in her most perceptive broadcast last Christmas, "Perhaps we make too much of what is wrong and too little of what is right. The trouble with gloom is that it feeds upon itself and depression causes more depression."

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## Things that go bump in the bath

Apparitions have been rich material for fiction. From Poe's isolated shadows twitting like bats to Vincent Price, with his soft, spookish voice and Edgar Allan Poe-faced look. But when people start to treat apparitions seriously as facts, contemporary materials clash with them with devoted UFOs and little green wickerwork men: as suitable cases for the lads with white coats and butterfly nets. The first large and systematically conducted statistical analysis of a large sample of reported apparitions is about to be published by an organization that treats such paranormal phenomena extremely seriously, not to say skeptically, and it claims, scientifically.

The Institute of Psychophysical Research, Oxford (no connection with the University) has its offices in one of those large, red-brick houses of north Oxford, that middle-class home of dons, and lost causes. Last year it acquired a press and radio for first-hand accounts of perceptions of apparitions, and has received nearly 2,000 reports from all over the world, in many languages and cultures. "Apparitions" were given long questionnaires with 66 detailed questions to fill in. The results, and statistical analysis and conclusions drawn from them, are published on Monday in *Apparitions* by Colin Green and Charles McCreery (Hamish Hamilton, £3.75).

### Ghosts that floated angelically through walls

The book is full of strange sightings of ghosts that burst like bubbles (the earth has bubbles, as the water has), smoked cigarettes, or floated angelically head first through walls. Disembodied smiles of dead mothers compete with luminous women crawling under the bed at night; a significant number of fathers' ghosts; the bottom half of an understandably unidentifiable man from the trousers downwards sighted in a train; and a ghostly coat with nothing inside it, reported walking up and down a street in Cairo. Vegetable apparitions are cited, including a blooming phantasmagoria of Canterbury Bells, and animal apparitions, including a cat and a fluffy white rabbit, as well as the more predictable pet dogs and pussies.

The accounts read nothing like deliberately fictional ghost stories, being generally written in a factual, stiff language that sits incongruously on the exciting events that are being described. "A former lover, whose misconduct and neglect had compelled me to renounce him," "Rather puzzled," "I didn't pursue the matter." They are generally as flat as the paranormal experiences that some people insist on telling about at dinner. From such evidence the researchers draw general conclusions about the nature of apparitions. Their suggestion that is most revolutionary in these mysteries is that apparitions may be "metachoric" (other-place) experiences: that is to say that when somebody sees an apparition, not only is the figure of the apparition hallucinatory, but the rest of the perceiver's environment is also hallucinatory, even though it may look just like the bedroom where it is all happening. This would explain such public sightings of apparitions as their apparent solidity instead of, as you might expect, perspicuity. The study of the paranormal has acquired jargon quite as rebarbative as that of normal science. Leave aside metachoric and parapsychic, which is a pleasure to do, and there still remains autopsychy, the disconcerting experience of

seeming to see one's own body from outside it, and much else. Statistical analysis reveals many other improbable generalities about apparitions. The most popular position for seeing the things among the sample was lying down. But one in a 100 saw their apparition while riding, on a motor-cycle, a mule, and other mounts. And one in a 100 percipients were neither lying down, nor sitting, nor standing still, nor walking, nor riding, but "other"; presumably in the lotus position, or standing on their heads. The report quotes the late Lord Brougham's account of seeing the ghost of a boyhood friend while he (Lord Brougham) was in the bath.

### Human beings are prone to fibbing

The report goes into such statistical matters as the duration of apparitional experiences, sensations of cold, auditory experiences, posture and muscle-tone of the subject, and colour. Between half and two-thirds of visual apparitions reported were coloured in some way. The rest were black and white, or monochrome.

Of course, the trouble about such research is that, except in the case of collective hallucination, there is only one person's word for what happened; and human beings are notoriously prone to self-deception, self-dramatization, and fibbing. Most straight scientists would dismiss accounts of apparitions as pseudo-science or even meaningless, because, apart from the percipient's report, there is usually no way that his sighting of an apparition could be verified, or, more important, falsified. Colin Green, who founded the Institute in 1962 after graduating in mathematics and physics at Oxford, is not impressed by such arguments: "It is very difficult to get people to take a genuine interest in the phenomena that are called paranormal, which is really only a name for the phenomena that people have decided not to be objective about."

### The natural that is not yet understood

She directs the work of the Institute with three other young Oxford graduates as researchers, and claims engagingly to be an "unrecognized genius." "To be a genius has never been easy," granted the tendency of the human race to like frustrating them." Her next book, about the decline and fall of science, will demonstrate that there are far more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in academic science departments.

Miss Green's work can be taken, as she and her colleagues take it, to show that the supernatural is just another name for the natural that has not yet been understood. She might take her percipient to show that there are no limits to human credulity especially in relation to apparitions: that ghosts are the outward and apparently visible signs of inward fears, and thus to believe in one's dreams is to believe in all of one's life. Or, as Mehlisabel said to arch: "You want to know whether I believe in ghosts or course I do not believe in them."

If you had known as many of them as I have you would not believe in them either.

Philip Howar

## Did the horrors of Nazism herald the end of anti-semitism?

The melancholy distinction of being the world's leading authority on anti-semitism belongs to a Russian-born, Paris domiciled, non-practising Jew named Leon Poliakov. It was after writing his first book, *Harvest of Hate*, which details the plight of French Jews under the German occupation, that Mr Poliakov decided to study the problem of anti-semitism in all its manifestations. He was recently in London for the publication of the third volume of his massive history, which so far has taken him 20 years of research to document the course of anti-semitism from Roman times until the twentieth century.

While here, Mr Poliakov gave one public lecture which was curiously unsuccessful, as he himself recognized: perhaps because his audience, many of them survivors of Nazism, expected something more glib and emotive than the fastidious scholarship of his work. He brings to his work expertise in the disciplines of history, theology, sociology and psychology. Or perhaps because the shadow of Miller is still too enormous for people to accept that anti-semitism did not begin and end with him.

He has his roots, as Mr Poliakov's first volume makes clear, in the theology of the early Church Fathers. Before Christianity became the dominant religion of western civilization, the ancient world knew nothing of organized

anti-semitism. It only occurred once Judaism existed in opposition to its daughter religions of Christianity and to a lesser extent Islam, whereas in the Far East, where there was no theological confrontation, Jewish communities were left to pursue placid, undisturbed lives.

Poliakov charts the tormented and persecuted history of Western Jewry—"the aching heart of nations" in Judah Halevi's image—with dispassionate clarity. The indictment is heavy enough for him to force any strident accusation, any calling of Christianity to account, that runs the risk of reviving old animosities.

And it is some progress that all recognized sections of the modern Church regret their forbearance responsibility for encouraging the stereotype of the rejected decide whose degradation witnessed to Christianity's triumph.

in der Musik might have been a pamphlet commissioned by the Third Reich which so idolized him.

That the apostles of universal salvation should have been critical towards Judaism (and all religion), is understandable. But why did this hostility gain general approval at a time when European nations were moving towards greater freedom and toleration?

There are, according to Mr Poliakov, two reasons. The first was that those generations of Jews who took advantage of emancipation in post-Napoleonic Europe, did so too successfully. They quickly rose to positions of disproportionate influence in the arts, in medicine, and especially in banking, and as a result a new economic envy replaced the former theological justification for anti-semitism.

The second reason was that the burgeoning discipline of anthropology, which tried to classify peoples according to colour, language and blood, gave "scientific" respectability to anti-semitism by extolling the superiority of the Aryan races. Jews themselves fell victim to the Aryan myth.

Otto Weininger was an Austrian philosopher who wrote a bombastic, immensely successful tract entitled *Sex and Character*, in which he defined man as Aryan and superior, woman as semitic and inferior. He was baptized in 1902, but committed suicide shortly after.

Walter Rathenau, the German Foreign Minister, murdered by semites in 1922, an ironic instance of a Jew who succumbed to racial ideology and hoped to hide semitic origins by assimilation. And the most fateful exam of Jewish hatred in the century has been Karl Marx.

Nowadays, thankfully, religious and racist arguments for anti-semitism are not acceptable. Does that mean anti-semitism will die out? Poliakov refuses to be dogmatic. "Historians are not prophets," he says firmly, as directs attention to the Sc Union, where Jews are not assimilated but at the same time subjected to discrimination for being Jewish. He also writes to see who, among the critics of anti-semitism, is not anti-semitic and new guise.

However, he is encouraged by the young, by so children at play on the shouting the hurtful racial memories from his own hood.

The hope must be that the young grow up neither forget, nor repeat sins of their fathers.

Rabbi Dav Gold

(Chief Rabbi of the Liberal Synagogue, London)

"The History of Anti-Semitism" Vol III from Voltaire to Hitler, published by the Library of Jewish Civilization.





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## THE SECRECY OF GOVERNMENT

do not wish to comment at this stage on all the curious issues of the Crossman; they will come to trial, the various arguments will be put. We do want to ask the question of the wide injunction which was sought by Attorney General against the *Times*. In its amended writ for this injunction served on the *Sunday Times* Thursday morning, was before Mr Justice Ackner on Thursday, was granted by Mr Justice Ackner on Friday.

It was discharged by the Court of Appeal—and Mr Justice Ackner's order was dissolved—on Friday afternoon. The injunction had therefore a life, and indeed a disgrace.

Gordon Slynn, QC, for the Attorney General told the court his was "an injunction to the defendants from which certain categories of information which had long been held as confidential, (1) discussions in cabinet or cabinet committee, the record of such discussions and papers prepared and arising out of those discussions, (2) discussions or communications between ministers and ministers concerning the development and formulation of policies, their execution, (3) discussions and communications concerning the appointment and service and comments on fitness for positions of officials."

The wide injunction is indeed wide. It would, for example, clearly have been a breach of the injunction to have published extracts of such discussions from Mr Macmillan's memoirs, which *The Times* serialized. It goes further than that. Any notion of differing opinions within the cabinet on the development of economic policy would be a breach. For instance, if *The Times* yesterday morning had published the injunction was granted, a long and it piece of analysis under the heading "The Deadline is Postponed". He disavowed evidence knowledge, lies between ministers on policy. If Mr Justice's orders had stood that

article would manifestly have been in breach, as would several political pieces in every issue of every newspaper, and the better the newspaper the more of them. The significance of this at a time of crisis was specifically recognized by Mr Justice Ackner. "Given the present serious crisis which was sorely inflicting the country," he said, "the *Sunday Times* envisaged the possibility of desiring to use such material which might involve discussions in cabinet or cabinet committee or discussions or communications between ministers and ministers and advisers concerning the development and formulation of policies and their execution."

Mr Conyn submitted for *The Sunday Times* that to prevent them doing so would be a monstrous interference with the freedom of the press. Mr Justice Ackner felt that it would only be "a monstrous interference with the freedom of the press" if there were no rule of law which required that such material should not be published.

He then granted the injunction, knowingly preventing such publication, observing that "in all the circumstances, the balance of convenience being in granting the interlocutory relief," that is to say that in all the circumstances the balance of convenience lay in abolishing the freedom of the press.

For that is what the wide injunction would have achieved for the period until the trial of the main action. The first purpose of a free press, its chief virtue, is that people should be informed of the operation of the government of their country. Democracy depends upon it. Governments in general prefer to act behind a curtain of secrecy, only making their own announcements and presenting political news and policy in the most favourable light. That is why the free press exists only in a minority of countries; it is why on Thursday Mrs Gandhi suppressed the freedom of the press in India. Freedom to explain the acts of government requires freedom to explain the reasons of government; freedom to explain the reasons of government requires the reporting of policy discussions inside government, inside Cabinets, between ministers, inside departments, between ministers and advisers. We have been doing this, in a quite routine way, for 190 years; this injunction purported to prevent us from continuing to do so.

How can it have come about? Mr Justice Ackner's judgment we will not press further—greater judges than he have laid their pen knives to the freedom of the press. Even the great Mansfield did so. It is a truism that the legal profession is divided between those who only understand what law is and those who also understand what law is for.

Nor will we waste time on the Attorney General, except to say that the pretence that he acts purely of his own volition in this matter, withdrawn into a tent of

legal purity, is both a great absurdity and a great untruth.

There are two powerful men who need to be put to scrutiny, for without their attitudes, and their decisive influence, this action would not have come on as it did. One is the Secretary of the Cabinet, Sir John Hunt, and the other is the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson. They are the men responsible, for this is a question of government, and it represents an attitude to government which needs to be repudiated.

Sir John Hunt is a professional civil servant, and he suffers from the disability of his professionalism. Doctors, because they are conscious of professional obligations, engage in white perjury in coroners' courts rather than face the facts of negligence. Solicitors will sue anyone, except a fellow solicitor. Professional civil servants come to believe that running a country can be and should be a purely professional matter, and of course it cannot. The involvement of the public is the essence of good government, and the public cannot be involved unless it is informed.

Whatever he may profess, and he is too discreet to profess much, Sir John does not believe in open government. He believes in Civil Service government, that is to say, in government in private. He does not believe that the public has a right to know, he believes that the Civil Service has a right to its secrets; that is called the principle of confidentiality. As a civil servant Sir John is also a loyal servant of his master, and the Prime Minister is obsessed with the problems of public information, though for different reasons.

### Different

Mr Wilson's position is different. He is an unsuccessful Prime Minister who does not like being criticized. If one takes, as historians will take, the national situation in 1964, when he came to power, and compares it with that in the summer of 1975, after more than ten years in which he has been Prime Minister for seven, it is without question that he has presided over a terrible period of national decline. His personal share of responsibility obviously may be questioned; the fact of his failure, related to his promises, hardly can be. Obviously any press which does not lie in order to flatter him reveals the painful truth: it is no wonder he would like to smash the mirror. Indeed in his memoirs he did what he could to justify his record, and it is no surprise that he should prefer his own memoirs to Mr Crossman's.

The professional preference for smoothly oiled and private administration, the sensitivity of an old politician to criticism, and the arrogance with which some lawyers prefer the exaltation of the law to the exaltation of freedom, combined to produce a few hours in which the freedom of the press, where it is most useful to the public, was directly jeopardized. Thank God for Lord Denning.

## Tackling inflation: obstructive Bills

From Mr J. Grimond, Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland

Sir, Anyone who wants to see how Government should not be managed should examine the situation in the House of Commons.

The country is already smothered by legislation. The session should only have a few weeks to run. Yet the Government has nine Bills still in committee and more to go in. The committees sit by day and night. They clash with the sittings of the House and with other commitments such as the Scottish Grand Committee. The Bills cannot be properly examined. The official reports are not available in time. The Ministers frequently cannot answer vital questions about their own proposals.

And what are these Bills about? Are they designed to increase employment? To cure inflation? To increase productivity? To reduce the vast top hamper of public administration under which we groan? Indeed not. They will increase the borrowing requirement. They will divert resources from productive investment. They will add to the swelling tide of public expenditure and officialdom. By the Government's own criteria these Bills can only make the situation worse. Meanwhile they are causing chaos in Parliament.

Ministers may be incapable of tackling the economic crisis. Surely however they could stop aggravating it. But most of them meander on sounding more and more like Ramsay MacDonald in old age. Perhaps they should concentrate their minds. Suppose those in charge of our affairs had their salaries and pensions cut every six months if the cost of living rises.

Yours faithfully,  
J. GRIMOND,  
Liberal MP, House of Commons.

### A siege economy

From Mr F. W. Bateson

Sir, If I am to be rebuked for the parallel I drew in my letter of June 21 between 1939 and our present economic crisis, I am sure I shall be no more courteous rebuker than Professor R. G. M. Nisbet in his reply of June 24. I hope he will not think me unkind if I remind him that he was only a schoolboy of 17 at the time of the outbreak in 1939. He is however preoccupied with the misery of our poverty and unemployment, and the social services

as resources allow, and carefully monitored to ensure that acquisition and disposal of development land keep in step.

Secondly, the Government have made clear that local authorities will not usurp the role of the developer. Developers will continue to have a vital role to play. What this Bill does is to establish a new framework so that a better balance is struck between the local authorities who have planning responsibilities and the developers who have particular skills to offer.

Thirdly, in the very important debate in committee on church land, the Government stated that they accepted the spirit of the new clause moved by Kevin McNamara, MP. It is untrue to say that the Government have not acknowledged the need for special treatment here. On the contrary, they have undertaken to make their proposals known as soon as possible.

Finally, on the number of extra staff needed, as John Silkin has made clear on a number of occasions, only some 4,000 spread over a period of years will require particular skills in relation to land matters.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
BRYAN GOULD,  
House of Commons.  
June 23.

### Lecturers' salaries

From Dr J. A. Simmons

Sir, It would be unreasonable to expect all contributors to your correspondence columns always to be well informed and completely accurate, so that the occasional minor lapse is forgivable. However, the letter entitled "Lecturers' Salaries" (June 24) presents such a gross distortion of the facts that an immediate refutation is required before any serious discussion can take place.

First, the letter states that the average salary of a lecturer is £20,000. This is a gross distortion of the facts that an immediate refutation is required before any serious discussion can take place. The average salary of a lecturer is £20,000. This is a gross distortion of the facts that an immediate refutation is required before any serious discussion can take place.

With regard to the number of hours worked per week, your correspondent is perhaps unaware that by statutory agreement with the local authorities, lecturers in the I and II grades are required to teach for something like 30 hours per week. This load decreases somewhat with further advancement, the reason being that, as

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Israel and Lord Moyne's assassins

From Mr Andrew Hughes-Onslow

Sir, Lord Moyne and Lance Corporal Fuller were two of the gentlest, kindest men I have known. It has been my good fortune to meet them.

As ADC to Lord Moyne I witnessed their brutal murder at the hands of Jewish assassins in Cairo in November 1944. Subsequently I was involved in their arrest and identification, and was chief witness at their trial before an Egyptian court.

Now, as attempts are made to condone the crime, the murder of L/Cpl Fuller is conveniently passed over. Much was said at the trial, and since, about the political motives behind the killing of Lord Moyne, but the assassins were totally at a loss to explain their subsequent callous and deliberate gunning-down of L/Cpl Fuller, which could not have been calculated, and, in fact, did not facilitate their escape. Indeed the extra shots fired not only may well have alerted the Egyptian motorcycle policeman, who took over the chase from me, as they were on bicycles and I was on foot, but also may have resulted in their being short of rounds when they turned their revolvers on him, as he closed with them.

Be all that as it may, it seems, to say the least, ironic that two such worthy men should be so wantonly killed. Lord Moyne, with his unique charm and the careful impartiality of a wise elder statesman, was desperately searching for an equitable solution to the Palestinian problem. L/Cpl Fuller was in the RASC a corps whose Middle East strength was considerably increased by large numbers of Jews anxious to join in the common cause of the war against Hitler.

Now, some thirty years later, one was not only beginning to forget the many savage acts of Jewish terrorism, but also to admire the strongest stand of any country in the world taken by the State of Israel against similar acts in recent times.

Thus it comes as a shock and with a feeling of sadness to read in your columns of the glorification of these ruthless assassins. A guard of honour provided by troops of the United Nations, followed by a state funeral from the Hall of the two young men, the Prime Minister and members of his cabinet, can only revive bitter memories of a sordid act, so universally condemned by all leading Zionists at the time.

For the sake of the Jewish people, and the ever-increasing measure of worldwide sympathy for the Jewish people, it is better that it be forgotten.

Yours truly,  
ANDREW HUGHES-ONSLAW,  
Acton Lodge,  
Ascot, Berkshire.  
June 27.

### Judicial sentences

From Mr Conrad Dehn, QC

Sir, The current furor over Judge Humphreys' sentence in a recent rape case highlights the defect in our legal system that, except in limited circumstances, on a question of law the Crown has no right of appeal against sentence.

If the Crown had such a right, a sentence which was too lenient or otherwise inappropriate could be reviewed and altered by the Court of Appeal at the instance of the Crown, and there would then be no need for members of Parliament to call for action against the trial judge and thereby threaten the independence of the judiciary.

Yours faithfully,  
CONRAD DEHN,  
2 Crown Office Row,  
Temple, E.C.4.  
June 25.

### The Commons on radio

From Sir Oswald Nostalg

Sir, I shall not be expected of partisanship for Mr Wilson when some comment appears necessary from a participant in question and debate of previous parliaments. He is at present Prime Minister and has the duty of answering questions during the gravest economic crisis of our history. The reception by a considerable body of members suggests to the radio listener that he is connected not with the Parliament at Westminster but with the Zoo at Regent's Park.

Making all allowance for the distortion in these sound effects proceedings, it seems to have sadly degenerated. To outside opinion this may confirm the impression of a decadence which can still be corrected by means freely available within our Parliamentary constitution.

Yours faithfully,  
OSWALD MOSLEY,  
1 Rue des Lacs,  
Orsay 91,  
France.

### Closed shops

From Mr A. C. Staples

Sir, I have seen the letter from Professor J. F. Coates, FRSE, in *The Times* of Wednesday, June 11, dealing with the position of professional engineers in a closed shop situation.

The implications of the closed shop is an issue which has deeply concerned the Committee of the Prosecuting Solicitors' Society of England and Wales who have made representations on the point to the Law Society and through other channels.

Professor Coates was dealing specifically with engineers but I would like to support the principles underlying what he was saying.

The issue is a vital one for many of us who undertake professional work in an employed capacity. I feel that there are many sincere supporters of the closed shop who are unaware of the practical difficulties facing professional persons

responsibility for carrying out policies which constitute one of the most shameful chapters in British history and in Britain's administration of the Palestine Mandate. They were policies which directly led to the abandonment to Hitler's gas chambers of thousands of innocent victims who could have found refuge in the land that was then called Palestine—a land ruled at that time by the British authorities with the lash and the gallows.

To compare the actions of the Fighters for the Freedom of Israel (Stern Group) and the other Jewish resistance movements, all of which waged war exclusively with the civil, military and paramilitary authorities, with those of the Arab murder gangs which today slaughter innocent men, women and children regardless of any involvement their victims might have with Israel, is not merely an insult to a gallant band of freedom fighters but befores and blurs the important distinction between the aims, and above all methods, of guerrilla fighters and indiscriminate terrorists.

Indiscriminate political assassination is deplorable, but has anybody condemned, for example, Count Von Stauffenberg and his colleagues for their brave, if bungled, attempt on the life of Adolf Hitler?

The Government of Israel is to be congratulated for the honour it has conferred on these two young freedom fighters. Thanks are also due to the United Nations forces for handling and handing over the coffins with the respect they deserved, and to the Government of Egypt for belligerency which exists between that country and Israel, consideration for the families of Eliahu Hakim and Eliahu Bet-Zuri.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE EVINNE,  
General Secretary,  
Zionist Revisionist Organization,  
71 Compayne Gardens, NW6.  
June 27.

### From Mr Charles Jellinek

Sir, As a Jew upon my next visit to Jerusalem I will stand with bowed shoulders head before the Walling Wall and pray forgiveness for the same infidelity upon the Jews by the conduct of the present Israeli Government, sponsoring the glorification of two murderers Eliahu Hakim and Eliahu Bet-Zuri who in 1945 cold-bloodedly shot down Lord Moyne and his chauffeur. This ignominious deed was at the time strongly condemned by Israel's first President Chaim Weizman in terms as one of the worst disasters to befall the young nation.

The official bestowing of heroism to these foul terrorists is not supported by the great majority of Jews in this country or for that matter elsewhere. Unfortunately, Israel is no exception to the degradation of moral and ethical standards which has penetrated and affected so many nations.

Sir, I remain your obedient servant,  
CHARLES JELLINEK,  
13 Blenheim Terrace,  
St John's Wood, NW8.  
June 27.

because these have never been explained to them.

For example, the members of my society are, in the main, employed by local authorities or police authorities but they are required to advise and represent Chief Constables (who are most emphatically not their employers) on a solicitor and client basis. Further they have fundamental obligations in the courts and to the administration of justice generally. Whether or not they be the rights or wrongs of members of professions choosing to abandon their obligations, which is another issue altogether, it will be a very grave situation if they are compelled to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. STAPLES, President,  
The Prosecuting Solicitors' Society of England and Wales,  
Police Headquarters,  
Sutton Road,  
Maidstone, Kent.

### "Death of St Narcissus"

From Mr D. A. Rose

Sir, In his review on Tuesday (June 17) of Britten's Canticle, *The Death of St Narcissus*, William Mann states that the poem is known. Naturally, whatever may be the rights or wrongs of members of professions choosing to abandon their obligations, which is another issue altogether, it will be a very grave situation if they are compelled to do so.

Yours sincerely,  
D. A. ROSE,  
29 Princes Road,  
Ashford, Middlesex.

### How they salute

From Sir John Martin

Sir, Guidance is required by the hairless male in civilian clothes, eg when the National Anthem is played, when he steps on the quarterdeck or when he passes regimental Colours in the street.

When hand salute is prescribed should it be naval or military? Is the right hand held across the heart acceptable if the heart is British? Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MARTIN,  
The Barn House,  
Watlington,  
Oxford.  
June 26.

From the Rev H. Grant Scarfe

Sir, Surely, the origins of the military salute are lost in the mists of antiquity, and have long become a ritual repetition of the display of an open hand with no weapon, and thus a sign of friendly intent, when meeting friend, foe or stranger. The naval variation was introduced in 1890.

It is probably most people who have used both will agree with Miss Jellinek in preferring the newer salute. Yours truly,  
HUBERT GRANT SCARFE,  
28 Webster Close,  
Maidenhead,  
Berkshire.  
June 25.

## RE HOSTAGES IN UGANDA?

ident Amin has indeed more British residents on of treason it will amount to hostages. Whatever his was, Mr Hills would now up the first of those s. The president's failure what he wants by using Mr the obvious explanation new arrests. What is more, ident has a pool of 700 residents, for whose lives ety his state is of course l trustee to draw from in g his demands. It was at issible to see in his use Hills's death sentence as aining counter an aberr- produced by an erratic e appeals for clemency on arian grounds. The as changed. The plight of ish community must be rankly.

ay be that at the outset n Amin had Mr Hills med to death in simple at the criticism he made unpublished manuscript o the prestibility of ex- the situation developed at the position of ex- mind as Hills's position of personal appeals from uen, the Government, chibshop and from Afri- s well as non-African . By additionally accusing lls and any captives of ge he has played shrewdly African gallery.

by step he seems to be to make the whole issue e, of independent Africa's and dignity against obso-

lete colonial pretensions. In again humbling Britain, he will undoubtedly strike a chord in some African minds. The negotiations over Mr Hills's life have also enabled him to deftly insinuate that Britain boasts of being in control of Kenyan policy and, in concert with South Africa, of President Seretse Khama. He thus presents himself as a nationalist champion.

Whether President Amin is seriously thinking that his full list of demands could be exacted by threats to British lives is a question. Possibly General Sir Chandos Blair knows the answer. He is in effect demanding that the British Government should pass laws enforcing a censorship on the British press over all references to Ugandan affairs, and the expulsion of all Ugandan exiles. The first demand implies that an African dictator can abrogate British liberties won over hundreds of years and the second requires repudiation of a right of political asylum held sacred by all civilized states. It has always been held that Mr Callaghan, whether he went to Uganda under duress or after relief for Mr Hills, would have had to educate President Amin on these matters.

It would no doubt have been an explosive confrontation, but the open taking of hostages would make it more difficult for the Foreign Secretary to go. Indeed, his only hope of going and not being made to return whenever President Amin required his attendance would seem to be to bring back the British community with him. It would be a mistake to under-

estimate President Amin's power or determination. He showed over the Asians that he could enforce his will to the last inch. He knows that—ironically like the Rhodesians—he has a political position from which he can defy any European or African power. Britain has not the means, will or allies to try a rescue on the Stanleyville precedent. Probably President Amin would like Mr Wilson to rally Africa behind Uganda by trying. Notwithstanding his unreason over Mr Hills and his record in Uganda, he has considerable popularity in his own country and not a little throughout Africa for showing that white men in Africa have no racial privilege in an African dictatorship, however capricious or oppressive. The heat is temporarily off the locals and on the expatriates.

In these circumstances Britain has only one recourse, which is to work through other African governments. Most of them already dislike the effect that General Amin's methods are having on the image of a modern Africa. They cannot support his extreme demands for a breach of political asylum, however inconvenient they may find western journalism. Uganda's neighbours probably do not even want Britain to send the arms the president demands. Nor would most of them submit to blackmail of the kind being levelled at Mr Callaghan. They should be able to see that the precedent that President Amin is setting would be bad for them in international relations and their aid should again be enlisted if the situation further deteriorates.

### atment of children

From R. F. N. Duke

committees are being set up out the country to investi- treatment of children. These es, however well moni- are self appointing and in-

vestigate in secret: anybody can be reported to them by anyone. There is talk of a central computerized index of suspected cases. If this is to be the solution of a difficult problem, should not these committees be given legal status, their powers outlined and their

actions protected? And should not the parents have a right to attend? This could otherwise set a dangerous precedent. R. F. N. DUKE,  
The Old Manor,  
Pillerton Hersey,  
Warwick.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Personal  
investment  
and finance,  
pages 16 and 17

### ICI unions gain threshold clause 26pc pay offer manual workers

ICI unions have gained a 26pc pay offer for manual workers, a decision which the company's management described as "a landmark" in the history of the firm's relations with its workforce.

The offer, which was made by ICI's management, is the highest ever made to manual workers in the company's history. It is a 26pc increase over the previous year's pay, and includes a 10pc increase for overtime and a 10pc increase for shift work.

The offer was made after a series of negotiations between the company and the unions. The unions had demanded a 20pc increase, but the company offered 26pc. The unions accepted the offer, and the company agreed to a 10pc increase in overtime pay and a 10pc increase in shift work pay.

The offer is a landmark in the history of the firm's relations with its workforce. It is the highest ever made to manual workers in the company's history. It is a 26pc increase over the previous year's pay, and includes a 10pc increase for overtime and a 10pc increase for shift work.

### Short-term interest rates soar in US

Short-term interest rates moved sharply today with some key rates reaching the highest levels seen for months.

The rate for three-month Treasury bills rose to 10.5 per cent, while the rate for six-month bills rose to 11 per cent. The rate for one-year bills rose to 11.5 per cent.

The rise in interest rates was caused by a number of factors, including a rise in the Federal Reserve's discount rate and a rise in the market's expectation of a rise in the rate.

The rise in interest rates has led to a fall in the price of bonds, and a rise in the price of stocks. It has also led to a rise in the cost of borrowing, and a fall in the value of money.

### Whitbread bids £18m for Long John

By Andrew Wilson  
Long John International's shares leapt 55p to 222p yesterday following the announcement of a recommended offer from Whitbread valuing the whisky distilling company at £18.5m.

Earlier this month, the brewery group said it was having talks with Schenley Industries, a subsidiary of the Rapid-American financial conglomerate, with a view to acquiring the 75 per cent holding in LJI.

For every 100 LJI shares, Whitbread is offering £1 cash and £18 of 11 per cent convertible loan stock which is convertible into Whitbread "A" shares between 1978 and 1983 at an equivalent

price of 63.7p compared with the closing price last night of 57p.

These terms value each LJI share at 231p, which is 10p above the cash alternative.

Underwriting of the convertible loan stock was completed yesterday afternoon although there were some refusals by institutions. Among those which did accept were the Whitbread pension funds which took on £500,000 of liability while the Whitbread Investment Trust also took up a portion.

On the basis of LJI achieving its profits forecast of £2.4m pre-tax, Whitbread calculates it will have a positive cash flow

of £300,000 from the deal. The Whitbread view is that the acquisition fits in well with its wish to build up overseas earnings.

Already there is a 79 per cent stake in the Langenbach vineyard concern in Germany and a 42 per cent holding in Italy's second-largest brewer, Dreher, which cost £3m.

In response to the point that the offer appeared extremely generous—LJI is being taken over at 27 times earnings—Whitbread, who negotiated the terms themselves, believe that in two or three years they would be very glad of their move.

In recent years, LJI has had by far the most consistent profit record of any of the distillers due to its policy of integration. Its brand names include the distinctive Laphroaig malt from Islay, the Islay Mist blend as well as the Long John standard scotch.

Exports account for 68 per cent of profits, with France the largest market, followed by Italy, although profitability there has been hit by savage duty increases.

Mr Ian Coombs, the LJI chairman, said the terms were a full offer and a fair deal for the minority shareholders who held 2m shares.

### W Germany and Brazil sign nuclear power pact

West Germany and Brazil yesterday signed a pact on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the so-called instruments for a series of industrial agreements which will provide Brazil with a complete nuclear industry over the next 15 years.

The industrial package envisages the supply of eight nuclear power stations worth about DM11,200m (£2,290m) cooperation on the exploration and exploitation of Brazil's uranium deposits, the supply of fuel element and fuel element recycling plants and the supply of a uranium enrichment plant.

The enrichment plant will use the German-developed "separation nozzle" process and is designed to enrich natural uranium by the required 3 per cent for use in the nuclear power stations.

The contractor for the eight power stations is the German company Kraftwerk Union.

### Bonn rejects proposal for aluminium merger

A plan to merge the German interests in Kaiser Aluminium and Chemical Corporation with the Government-owned Vereinigte Aluminium Werke has been rejected by the West German Economics Ministry.

The deal was rejected by the Carrel Office in West Berlin at the end of last year on the grounds that it would lead to a restriction of free competition, but the companies appealed. Aluminium Werke has now said it will run down its Hanover rolling-mill.

In a related issue, the negotiations over the future of the Reynolds Aluminium Works in Hamburg, which was closed after protest by environmentalists, seem close to completion.

Herr Helmut Kern, the Hamburg senator responsible for economic questions, said the results should be disclosed next week.

### Rolls-powered Boeing

A Boeing 747 jumbo jet able to carry 700 passengers and powered by four Rolls-Royce RB211 engines developing 50,000lb of thrust is a possibility for the future, according to the executives at Heathrow.

The executives at Heathrow sign with British Airways a contract worth £80m for four 747s powered by 211-524 engines, developing 50,000lb of thrust, predicted that using Rolls rather than American jet engines will save £9.5m a year by 1982.

### Rand devalued

South Africa yesterday devalued the rand by 4.6 per cent against the dollar in what was seen as a significant change in monetary policy.

Mr Owen Horwood, the finance minister, said the move marked the end of the year-old "managed float" policy.

### Italy's May deficit

Italy had a balance-of-trade deficit of 135,000m lire in May, somewhat worse than the April deficit of 119,000m lire but much improved from the May 1974 gap of 374,000m. If oil were to be excluded from the May accounts, trade was in surplus by 261,000m lire.

### Leyland strike ends

By a narrow majority, the 500 members of the engineering and electrical unions whose strike this week halted production at the Llanelli, South Wales car body factory of British Leyland, decided yesterday to return to work on Monday.

### d limits prices for mer market share

Webb attempting to win a share of the depressed market in Britain for its early next week. Early next week, average prices are only 2.5 per cent below most of the time.

Mr Terry, managing director of the firm, is expected to make a statement to the press to help the motorist during the summer.

Vanhal announce price increases of 1.5 per cent. The goes up by £93 to £1,742, the Viva two-door de luxe by £99 to £1,669 and the Ventura by £158 to £3,042.

Chrysler is expected to announce increases averaging a similar 5.5 per cent on Monday. British Leyland began the present round of rises on June 15 with 4.8 per cent.

This round has seen much of the lowest increases by the industry as a whole since the present three-month cycle began two years ago.

R. W. Shakespeare writes: Mr Jack Jones, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, told the conference of the union's Vehicle and Automotive Group in Blackpool yesterday that limited and temporary, but definite import control "on foreign cars were necessary."

### ian cheap steel offer cancelled

Cross concluded, the officials said. Under the Steel Treaty, price reductions by one Community company which compete or discriminate unfairly against other producers are generally illegal.

The Commission's investigation has revealed that the products originally offered by Siderital, which operates in Britain on the behalf of other steelmakers as well as its parent company, were imported from two unspecified countries outside the Community, one of them East European.

Steel products manufactured outside the Community are allowed to be offered at reduced prices, provided that their origin is specified by the seller and they fall within the import quotas which a number of member states have with East European countries.

In this case, details of the steel's origin and the prices have to be published.

But some of these conditions at least may not have been met by Siderital. It is this aspect of the case which the Commission is continuing to investigate.

Peter Hill writes: Both the state-owned and the private sector of the steel industry, which lodged the complaint, see the outcome of the preliminary investigations as vindication for the attitude which they adopted.

Mr Selwyn Williams, a director of the British Iron and Steel Producers' Association, said that he was delighted.

### Council silent on suspension of tin stock chief

By Wallace Jackson  
Commodities Editor  
Once again the International Tin Council has failed to clear up the mystery behind the suspension of its buffer stock manager and his deputy by the council's executive chairman, Mr W. H. Allen, on May 9.

The council was in session in London on Thursday and again yesterday, but maintained its silence. A press statement had been widely expected, but was not forthcoming.

Three days after the suspension of Mr R. T. Adnan, the buffer stock manager, and his deputy, Mr J. M. Buno, Mr Allen held a press conference in London at which he fended off questions about what lay behind his action.

He said only that the suspension was his own decision; that there was no abnormal financial situation to unravel and no police inquiries were going on.

On May 20 the ITV began a series of meetings in Geneva to negotiate a new international tin agreement and it set up a committee to investigate the suspensions.

The Geneva meetings continued until June 20, ending in an agreement, but there was complete silence about the work—and the findings if any—of the committee, although it can be assumed that it made a report to the Council.

As one of the problems before the ITV in Geneva was the proposal to double the buffer stock, with the consumer nations contributing on which a compromise was reached—there is no doubt that Mr Adnan's great experience would have been an invaluable help to the negotiators.

### French Kier director is removed

By Our Financial Staff  
Mr Jack Braby, finance director of W. & C. French at the time of the company's merger with J. L. Kier in 1973, was removed from the board of French Kier at the group's annual meeting in London yesterday.

Earlier this year it was disclosed that the company had received grants of £9.5m from the Government because of heavy losses on a motorway construction programme. Also the Government made £4.5m loan facilities available, which could be used to make a 28 per cent stake in the equity.

The motorway contracts were being carried out by the French side of the merged group and were taken out before the merger.

Mr John Mott, chairman of French Kier, told the annual meeting that none of the directors, with the exception of Mr Braby himself, was in favour of Mr Braby being re-elected as a director.

Mr Mott said he held 1.4 million proxy votes opposing Mr Braby's re-election and 482,165 in favour. He gave a warning that if Mr Braby were re-elected on a show of hands a poll would be demanded.

In the event five shareholders voted against Mr Braby and two in favour of him retaining his place on the board.

Mr Braby, who had recently concerned himself with design, a solicitor, joined the W. & C. French board several years ago.

Last year French Kier made a loss of £2.94m after the £9.5m Government grants had been included in the accounts, against a profit of £4.3m the previous year.

Mr Mott commented yesterday on the role of the City in helping effect the merger and the position of former J. L. Kier shareholders.

He continued: "We would not in general join those who criticize our professional advisers working within the established mode of dealing with this type of acquisition."

What we former Kier directors do seriously question is the adequacy of the established mode. Further, we question whether the City is sufficiently equipped to deal with these situations.

The presence of deeply respected names of City firms in most minds to lend an authenticity to information or projections which in the end are highly qualified."

### Coats faces challenge by pension funds

By Our Financial Staff  
Pension funds, who hold shares in Coats Patons are being recommended by their Investment Protection Committee to vote against adoption of the textile group's 1974 accounts at the annual meeting in Glasgow on July 11.

This move, together with an unprecedented letter of criticism to The Times this week from the Chief Investment Manager of the Public Trustee office on behalf of trustees representing private trusts, is the most powerful opposition so far to Coats' plan to pass its final dividend.

The company's board argues that it needs to do this to protect shareholders' funds because of the effect of inflation on working capital and due to corporation tax problems arising from the company's high overseas earnings position.

Instead of a final dividend, Coats' board decided to compensate shareholders with a 1-for-25 scrip issue. But under shareholder pressure it subsequently had to go further, saying that the proposal to pass a dividend and a one-off decision in quite exceptional circumstances, it said it would roll forward its forecast interim

dividend for 1975 for payment in December rather than January.

This statement of future dividend policy appeared to satisfy shareholders. The Pension Funds Investment Protection Committee recommends voting against adoption of the accounts—in itself a highly aggressive move by such a body—because it wants Coats' board to reverse the decision.

A spokesman for the pension funds said last night: "We see this as a genuine point of disagreement. We hope that the company will be able to come forward with new or revised accounts, although we accept that this is a costly procedure and hope some way could be found to overcome that aspect of the problem."

Pension funds probably account for around 10 per cent of the shares in the company, and the Investment Protection Committee hopes that these shareholders together with small shareholders and other such as the Unit Trusts and Church Commissioners who have also expressed strong disapproval of the Coats' plan—will take the same action at the annual meeting, and thus possibly force the board's hand.

### Leyland shareholders' group fights takeover

By Desmond Quigley  
Dissident shareholders of British Leyland yesterday formed an association to oppose the proposed terms for the Government's rescue of the company and effectively said they had no confidence in the Leyland board.

The association will campaign for the Scheme of Arrangement, which in essence opens the way for the Government to take a majority stake in the company, to be rejected at an extraordinary general meeting next month.

It was not clear, however, what the association would do if the Scheme was blocked or if it was passed.

Once the Scheme of Arrangement is passed, shareholders will have the option of remaining in the reconstructed company or of selling their shares to the Government at an effective price of 10p.

Yesterday a motion proposed by Mr Tom Rothwell, one of the leading figures behind the association, was passed unanimously. It said: "We require a much better deal."

In an attempt to persuade the institutions, who hold about 25 per cent of the company's equity, to vote against the Scheme, those attending the meeting were urged to write to institutions they held shares in or had policies with demanding that the Scheme be blocked.

Dr Herbert Lane suggested that letters should also be sent to the company's solicitors alleging that shareholders were being unduly pressured into agreeing.

He said it might be possible to fight the Scheme, even if passed, by an extraordinary meeting in the Chancery Division of the High Court.

Another motion rejecting the Scheme and attacking the Leyland board—which is backing the Government's proposals—was also passed unanimously.

### Removal of restrictions on mortgages urged

By Malcolm Brown  
Artificial restrictions on mortgage lending must be removed and more money must be channelled into new housing, Mr R. M. Willan, senior vice-president of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, said yesterday.

The demand for home ownership was as strong as ever, he said, "but still output is sluggish and the industry is in the doldrums."

Speaking to builders at Hayling Island, Hampshire, Mr Willan said: "Despite a record figure of £924m for net receipts in the first quarter of

this year bringing total assets of building societies at March 31, 1975, to an estimated £20,715m, or 17 per cent higher than a year earlier, only 21 per cent of mortgages are going to buyers of new houses."

Orders for building contractors' services worth £567m in April, an increase of £30m over the previous month.

Figures published yesterday by the Department of the Environment showed that orders for seasonally adjusted prices totalled £1,100m for the three months February to April 1975, were 2 per cent down on the previous three months, but 5 per cent up on the February to April period last year.

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### State aid for Norwegian shipbuilders

By Peter Hill  
Norway's leading shipbuilder, the Aker Group, is to receive cash aid from the Norwegian Government and from its principal shareholder to alleviate the difficulties it has experienced as a result of the tanker market collapse.

Aker has so far received cancellations of orders for 11 tankers to a total value of 4,000m Norwegian crowns (about £330m).

Yesterday it was announced that the Norwegian Government's industrial assistance fund has guaranteed a foreign loan of 100m crowns to the troubled group, and had also approved a direct loan of 25m crowns.

FT index: 295.6 - 8.2  
The Times index: 129.97 - 2.30

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Ad Int'l 4p to 85p	Brit Land 21p to 15p
Add Int'l 4p to 81p	Bechem Grp 5p to 36p
Ad Int'l 4p to 81p	Brit Am Tob 12p to 28p
Ad Int'l 4p to 81p	Brit Am Tob 12p to 28p
Ad Int'l 4p to 81p	Brit Am Tob 12p to 28p
Ad Int'l 4p to 81p	Brit Am Tob 12p to 28p

Long John Int	Long John Int
55p to 222p	55p to 222p
55p to 222p	55p to 222p
55p to 222p	55p to 222p
55p to 222p	55p to 222p
55p to 222p	55p to 222p

THE POUND	Bank	Bank
Australia 5	72.5	72.5
Austria 5	35.50	35.50
Belgium 5	83.00	83.00
Canada 5	2.33	2.33
Denmark 5	12.50	12.50
Finland 5	8.05	8.05
France 5	9.15	9.15
Germany 5	5.35	5.35
Greece 5	67.25	67.25
Hongkong 5	11.40	11.40
Italy 5	144.00	144.00
Japan 5	685.00	685.00
Netherlands 5	5.55	5.55
Norway 5	11.25	11.25
Portugal 5	55.50	55.50
Spain 5	1.91	1.91
Switzerland 5	126.50	126.50
Sweden 5	9.40	9.40
Switzerland 5	5.70	5.70
US 5	2.38	2.38
Yugoslavia 5	37.50	37.50

### On other pages

Bank Base Rates Table: 19

Company Meeting Report: The Northern Securities Trust 15

Unit Trusts: Gartmore Schellings 16

### sh Gas signs 20-year ment with Shell/Esso

ielvoe espondent  
s has contracted to amounts of natural gas association with Shell/Esso group's in the northern part of the sea about 110 east of Shetland.

When the pipeline is completed, the gas will be able to meet its target of having 6000 million cfd of gas available in the early 1980s compared with the current 4,000 million cfd.

The Shell/Esso group is spending £500m on the development.

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### HIGHLANDS & LOWLANDS RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED

ate of Annual General Meeting

g to printing difficulties the date of the Annual Meeting notified with preliminary results as 22nd has been postponed. new date of the meeting will be announced shortly.

PLANTATION HOUSE,  
10-15 MINING LANE, LONDON EC3M 3LS  
THOMAS BARLOW & BROS. LIMITED,  
London Agents

### The Northern Securities Trust

The 77th Annual General Meeting of The Northern Securities Trust Limited will be held on 25th July in London. The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, The Hon. R. Hanning Phillips, M.B.E.

The year to 5th April 1975 saw the London market halve and subsequently double, ending some 3% below the level at 5th April 1974 as measured by the Financial Times Actuaries All-Share Index. During the same period the Japanese market was virtually unchanged and the New York market fell by approximately 12%. In the light of the highly volatile conditions in the UK your managers continued to maintain a high proportion of the portfolio in overseas stocks and at times held high cash balances. The asset value has fallen from 117p to 97p, with the result that for the first time for a number of years the performance compares unfavourably with that of the London market.

The overseas content has been maintained at a figure in excess of 60% of the total portfolio, but there have been alterations within that total. The investments in Japan and the Far East now represent 17% against 11%, and Australasia 7% against 5% whereas South Africa (principally gold shares) now totals 13% against 19% and North America is 19% compared with 23%. It is your Board's opinion that a high overseas content should be retained despite the handicap of the dollar premium. The UK content of the portfolio contains a high proportion of companies whose principal business is outside this country.

The economic situation in the UK presents the paradoxical picture of the best-performing stock market and the worst-managed economy. The economic cycle is lagging that of other economies and the rate of inflation is already the highest in Europe. Any panic reaction undertaken by the government in response to a high level of unemployment later this year could well coincide with an upsurge in commodity prices as other countries move into a recovery phase. By way of contrast, the situation in Japan is more encouraging since inflation has been brought under control and the size, strength and relative independence of the Japanese economy suggests that its stock market is more soundly based than those of western economies.

Our asset value has improved to 116p at the end of May and your managers are hopeful that the improving performance of overseas markets will enable the board to report more favourably next year.



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Moves to regulate insurance brokers



Mr Peter Shore: he has asked for proposals from the four main broking associations.

Behind this week's announcement that a working party has been set up to discuss the supervision of insurance brokers is the new general recognition that the public needs protection from the self-styled "broker" — the man who "holds himself out to be the specialist that he is not."

As things stand at present, anyone can set up in business as an insurance broker, a fact which obviously is as unacceptable to the more reputable and qualified brokers as it is misleading to the consumer at large.

If the working party set up at the request of Trade Secretary Mr Peter Shore achieves its desired end, then probably all brokers, if they are to describe themselves as such, will have to be licensed and regulated by a new standards body. They may even need statutory backing to practise.

A bona fide broker would need to prove, among other things, that he had access to the general insurance market. On the other hand, he would simply be an agent for one or two particular insurance companies, then he would have to describe himself as such.

Insurance "agents" range from professional people, such as solicitors, bank managers or building society managers, right through the spectrum of commerce and trade to village grocers and even undertakers, though insurance companies have discouraged these more unorthodox outlets in recent years.

The problem really began when some of these part-time agents saw the commissions paid to them by insurers as offering a more attractive financial proposition than their formal trade or profession. So they became full-time agents but styled themselves brokers.

Tied often to a few, and sometimes dubious, insurance principals these intermediaries attracted business from an unwitting public which obviously had no means of telling whether the so-called broker was testing the whole market or just a tiny corner of it before placing insurance.

It is significant that a great deal of the collapsed Vehicle & General company's motor policies were marketed through small brokers and that the members of the Corporation of Insurance Brokers, trained to "smell" a bad situation, were

responsible for less than 5 per cent of the V & G's motor business.

A qualified broker is generally taken to be one that belongs to one or other of the four main professional associations, of which the CIB is the biggest, representing some 1,400 brokers with a total employed staff of around 35,000. Before he can call himself an incorporated broker, a member of the CIB must meet certain academic demands, as well as having a certificate of solvency and professional indemnity to cover himself against risks.

The Lloyd's Insurance Brokers Association to some extent overlaps with the membership of the CIB. Smaller than the CIB, but similar in many ways, is the Association of Insurance Brokers. The newest body is the Federation of Insurance Brokers.

All seem to have reached some measure of agreement already on the need for "identification and supervision of insurance brokers" in the future. What will probably emerge at the end of the day is some sort of standards body aside from these associations and by which brokers will have to be ap-

proved in order to practise under that fairly privileged title.

Just how relationships between this body and the Department of Trade, which supervises the insurance industry, will be arranged remains to be seen, but Mr Shore has asked the four main broking associations to prepare proposals for a "self-regulatory" professional institute and to consider the alternative statutory licensing. The department has not officially stated its preference in the matter and will consult a wide range of bodies before arriving at a final decision.

The functions of broker and agent are unlikely to be completely separated by these proposed new arrangements. A broker with access to the entire insurance market for placing business is often nevertheless an agent for a particular company in certain respects. He may, for instance, issue cover notes on behalf of a motor insurer, a service which clearly can be useful at times such as weekends when the broker may be available to the public and the insurer not.

And there seems to be little desire among insurers to change significantly the role of agents

in marketing insurance, other than to reduce less orthodox outlets, particularly now that inflation is driving up the cost to companies of employing agents to inspect such outlets.

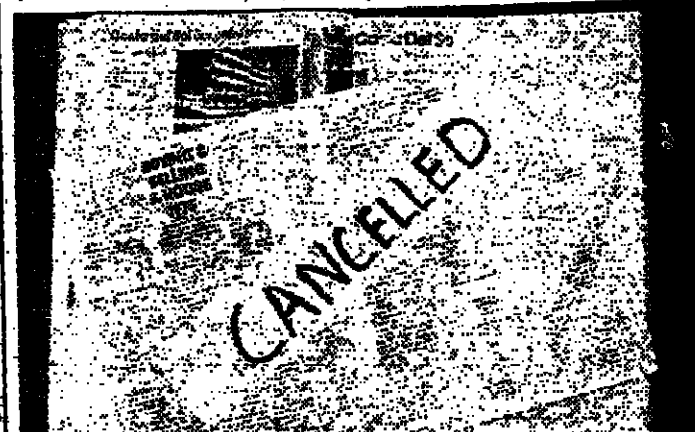
From the insurance companies point of view the existence of such agency outlets as building societies (which must now by law offer mortgages the choice of three insurers) makes for the smooth collection of premiums on mortgage, protection policies and arguably makes for greater convenience to the housebuyer, too.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the proposed reforms, though, is the legal one. According to the CIB, case law would allow an action to be brought against an intermediary describing himself as a broker, though not if he is an agent. If a man "holds himself out" to be a broker he must exercise certain responsibilities.

Presumably, though, until such time as a professional code demands that, for instance, he be adequately capitalized, such protection is fairly notional in some cases.

Anthony Rowley

## Talking shop



## How much do you pay if your plans fall through?

Last-minute changes to even the best laid domestic plans are sometimes unavoidable. Sudden illness or a change of heart by a third party can disrupt holidays, house moving, weddings and other arrangements made far in advance. And as well as being frustrating such changes can be expensive.

Cancellation fees are less prevalent in the present environment of protection for the consumer than they used to be, but plenty of businesses still charge them. People who alter their arrangements may therefore find themselves with a bill for a large part of the cost of a service which they did not receive.

The best known and perhaps the most onerous of cancellation charges are those levied by the inclusive holiday operators. A cancellation here, however far ahead, is likely to cost the initial deposit, and within six weeks of departure is almost certainly to cost more.

Under the scale of charges approved by the Association of British Travel Agents (and used by most of the big tour operators) you have to pay 60 per cent of the cost of your holiday if you cancel within a fortnight of departure. Under cost of processing and for the reduced possibility of reselling the holiday.

Despite pressure from consumer protection organizations and others the penalties are not stated as clearly as they might be in many companies' brochures, although there are a few notable exceptions. They mean that you need to be very sure of your intentions before you book your holiday. Alternatively you can take out one of the holiday insurances offered by the tour operators and which usually include some provision for loss of deposit, cancellation or curtailment.

Other travel and accommodation organizations are more relaxed about their booking conditions. From personal experience, scheduled airlines and British Rail are fairly tolerant of changes before departure, but it is advisable to check with smaller carriers, for example charter airlines.

The big car hire companies, for example, Hertz, say they do not charge any cancellation fee, but ask for personal experience a small car hire company asked for (and got) a cancellation charge even though the cancellation was made a few hours after the booking.

The situation with hotels is fairly clear. According to a spokesman for Grand Metropolitan Hotels, failure to give notification of a cancellation can mean that you are charged

for the hire of the room for not for breakfast. But if you tell the hotel within a reasonable time, say the morning before, that you are not going to arrive, then you are unlikely to be charged anything.

Apart from travel and holidays, the other area where you may be liable for cancellation charges is in moving house. There is no rule laid down by the furniture removals trade association, but, as one senior member of the business pointed out, "removals men are at the end of a long line of transactions from builders and decorators to the vendor and his solicitors."

He maintained, quite understandably, that where he has allocated men and vehicles to a date which was switched at the last minute, he was entitled to recover a fair proportion of his costs. Cancellation fees are fairly common practice in the removals business but the amount varies greatly from firm to firm.

The question of cancellation fees often arises when people are at their most vulnerable. A thwarted home buyer or heartbroken prospective bride has usually weighed things to ponder than a bill from a furniture removal company or caterer. In any case the charge is not always easy to spot if it is deducted from deposit paid weeks or months in advance, say at the time of booking.

Consequently, more often than not, the charge is paid without query, a situation which unscrupulous firms have been known to use to the advantage.

Legal experts in the consumer protection field advise, however, that the law does a look kindly on penalty clauses and will not allow a supplier to profit from them. They say that it is up to the supplier to prove that he has suffered actual loss by the cancellation and that usually this will consist of administration charges.

The practical solution, suggested by the Consumer Association, is for the user to whatever proportion of the cancellation charge he thinks is just and explain his case in writing. Then to wait for a supplier to sue for a remainder.

It is, of course, more difficult to retrieve the money if you have already been deducting from a deposit or advance payment refund. In any case, as a general principle, it is well advised that traders who do not demand advance payment of any kind. The user is in a stronger position, if dissatisfied with the service for any reason, is greatly weakened if cannot withhold payment.

Better still, of course, is to avoid any likelihood of a cancellation charge by giving much warning as possible in negotiations with a supplier, find out in minimum notice the event of a change plan—however unlikely it may seem at the time. An extra few hours' warning may be to save pounds.

—Patricia Tisdale

## Insurance

## Building societies still hold the whip hand

The Office of Fair Trading has made some progress with the building societies over the question of insurance against fire and other risks on mortgaged properties. In the main, however, the societies still hold the whip hand.

As announced a few weeks ago, the Building Societies Association has recommended to members that they should offer borrowers a choice of at least three insurers.

That means that borrowers are not compelled to use a single insurer. But, of course, a building society will have arrangements with its three insurers so that it secures a high rate of commission on the business which it places with them.

The actual rate of commission varies according to the volume of business from a particular society and the amount of administrative work which it undertakes for the insurer. But, on occasions, it may be in the region of 40 per cent or more.

Of course, it is easy to argue that an individual can obtain insurance at lower premium rates than those charged by an insurer selected by a building society. That is true since, to some extent, the high commission paid to building societies is the result.

For their part, building societies point out that the commission from insurance companies is a very important form of revenue. A number of building societies take the view that it is equivalent to one-eighth per cent on the mortgage rate.

And their attitude is that, in view of the saving in handling costs, it is better for many borrowers to be insured by their selected insurers rather than for the borrowers to make their own insurance arrangements (with the approval of the building society) and to pay a

higher mortgage rate of interest.

Certainly, if every borrower were to make his own insurance arrangements, building societies would be involved in checking that their interests were properly protected, which would add to the costs.

That is not to say that the present system is ideal—even with a limited choice of insurers. It should not be beyond the wit of building societies and insurance companies to be able to work out a better arrangement.

According to the Office of Fair Trading, the council of the Building Societies Association has recommended to members that borrowers should be able to propose an insurer different from one of those offered by the building society.

Naturally, any insurance company proposed by a borrower must offer cover equivalent to that provided by the insurers suggested by the building society.

And a building society will have the right to reject a company which it considers is unlikely to provide an adequate service, or which will not undertake to cover the society if the borrower fails to pay the premium.

Building societies are complying with the recommendations. In the normal course of events, I doubt whether a building society will be agreeable to accept a policy from a company (not on its own list) with which one has had a happy relationship over the years, or which is quoting a slightly lower premium than the companies on the list.

Building societies will not want to lose the commission which can be obtained from making the arrangements themselves. Thus, if a potential borrower becomes demanding, he may simply be advised to obtain a loan elsewhere.

With the demand for house-purchase loans greater than the supply from building societies, the latter can afford to adopt a "take it or leave it" attitude.

Rather more flexibility may be allowed by building societies in the case of thatched houses and thatched cottages. After early doubts, many insurance companies feel that timber-frame construction does not justify a significantly higher premium than for any other house, and there may not be any serious difficulties with a building society's insurance company on that score.

The position with thatched houses and cottages, however, is rather different. Here, there can be quite wide variations in premiums quoted by different insurers.

There is another area where there are certain problems. This is the question of an endowment policy to repay the loan at the end of the mortgage term or at earlier death. Increasingly, building societies are wanting all or a proportion of the commission paid by insurance companies.

Some insurance brokers do not take kindly to the idea of sharing the commission this way. But of course a building society can point out that but life policy to arrange.

There are a few life offices which, as a matter of principle, do not pay commission for the introduction of business. As a result, sometimes (but not always) they can offer better value for money than a life office which does pay away commission.

If a building society will not accept a policy from a non-commission-paying life office (because there will be no commission), the house purchaser may be obliged to go to another office—which may not give such good value for money.

John Drummond

## THROGMORTON TRIANGLE CHOP HOUSE



... if you sit down to lunch you will find yourself confronted with a bent spoon.

## Something spooky in the City

Among the strange tales travellers have brought back from far places, there is perhaps none stranger than that of the Throgmorton Triangle. Ostensibly, a fairly ordinary piece of modern urban landscape when viewed with an untutored eye, it is a place where, though there are those among them who look as if they are on the point of fainting.

There is, in addition, this strange feeling of oneness, owing to the fact that everything is thinking the same thing at the same time. The herd mentality operates so that individuals lose their individuality and become one of a crowd, like a flock of starlings or a shoal of fish.

Markets nowadays race up and down by dozens of points at a time, rather than oscillate gently like a cork on a quiet lake on a summer's day, simply because everybody is travelling in the same direction at once.

Why do they do it? One has the unsettling feeling of some higher power manipulating the whole system unseen, but in total control.

All these things have happened occasionally in the past, but now they do so with alarming frequency, and even on clear days when weather conditions are perfect. It may be significant, who knows, that there are a number of ancient restaurants and chop houses in the area, and in almost any one of them if you sit down to lunch you will find yourself confronted with a bent spoon.

As might be expected in a place so steeped in the supernatural, there are a number of practitioners in voodoo, clairvoyance, magic and the like.

this temporary holiday might never have been.

Some clue to the problem may be provided by the fact that recently a number of clients who had also vanished off the face of the earth have appeared, though there are those among them who look as if they are on the point of fainting.

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As might be expected in a place so steeped in the supernatural, there are a number of practitioners in voodoo, clairvoyance, magic and the like.

There are numerous wizards, who will turn a physical loss into a paper profit and vice versa at the wave of a pen and, indeed, there are also those who will charm even the most unattractive wart off a company's image by means of their public relations, biofeedback techniques.

Indifference at loss to counter the latest and most ominous manifestation. Entire quoted companies, particularly shipping companies, of course, are beginning to look as if they will vanish completely from the Stock Exchange Official List. They are not the subject of an ordinary takeover, they are not going into liquidation and there is no apparent commercial explanation for their disappearance.

It is, however, just possible that in some indefinable way they are about to be absorbed into the nameless horrors of the public sector of the very state itself. This is the theory of some of the area's most advanced thinkers, and if so, the Throgmorton Triangle must be nothing more or less than a vast plug-hole down which, in an ever-increasing whirlpool, the entire British capitalist system will eventually surge.

Whether or not the origins of this dreadful force are of an extraterrestrial nature cannot yet be established, but whatever they are, wherever they come from, and by whose sover malevolent agency they function, the danger to us all cannot be too heavily underlined.

Francis Kinsman

## Unit trusts

## Not a performance to be ashamed of...

Eleven million schoolchildren shortly face their individual reports of truth as end-of-year reports pass judgment on 12 months' effort with a dismissive "Could try harder" or "Little progress". It seems, therefore, a good time to take stock of unit trusts managers' achievements over the past year.

At first glance the performance since the end of the Christmas holidays suggests that most managers would be lucky to get away with a "D minus". The average unit trust has risen 3.9 per cent since the beginning of the year, which is barely half the 10.5 per cent increase in the Financial Times All Share Index.

Only one trust, Confederation Growth, has managed to beat the index: Hill Samuel Financial is up 100.5 per cent; two newcomers not yet in our one-year tables—Norwich Union and Perpetual Growth—have both risen 104 per cent, and—nor to upset those who feel that the tables are getting too much already—I suspect the news that the only other trust to more than double is the Trades Union Unit Trust. For the rest, nine more funds have risen 90 per cent or over and 28 by more than 80 per cent.

What excuse can professional managers have when only 42 out of more than 300 trusts manage to come within 25 per cent of an unmanaged index? The justification lies in the relative success in protecting unit

holders' money last year and the difficulties of dismantling defences quickly enough this year to catch the full market rise. Looked at over the full 12 months, the gap is much narrower.

A model trust always fully invested exclusively in the shares of the all-share index would show a one-year profit, on the same basis as the funds, of 28.7 per cent against an average trust gain of 14.2 per cent. But over three years, unit trusts have beaten the market, with an average loss of 23.1 per cent, compared with the imaginary All-Share Trust losing 30.8 per cent.

Among the medium funds, stockbroker trusts stand out as particularly successful over the past year. Rowe & Pitman's Rowan Securities heads the list and Coleman (Mullers) and Marlborough and Buckingham (both Buckmaster & Moore) all feature in the top dozen trusts.

The Rowe & Pitman fund is a good example of managers who did not anticipate the market recovery but who were floor-floored enough to relapse as soon as prices started to rise. At the start of the year, the fund had 15 per cent in foreign currency and 50 per cent in cash and government securities, but by mid-February the report's commentators showed it to be only 13 per cent in gilts.

Most of the money went into

the now fashionable overseas earnings shares such as BAT, Becham and Shell, which Rowe & Pitman regard as a good two-year bet. If sterling weakens, overseas earnings should help bolster profits, and if measures are taken to contain domestic inflation exporters should be the first to benefit.

The leading growth trust is, by its name implies, mainly intended for members of professional associations. Launched by Barclays Unicorn at the worst possible time in 1972, it has none the less held very steady.

Its performance since the turn of the year has been middle of the road, but an outstanding achievement last year, when it actually went up, ensures its place at the head of the list.

The two Drayton funds in second and third places highlight an excellent all-round performance by the group. The rises recorded so far this year have been only a little better than average but are supported by good defensive measures last year, when its worst performing trust fell only 25 per cent against 35 per cent for the all-share index.

The ability to negotiate both rising and falling markets is probably a better indicator of investment skill than just looking for the winners in a straight sprint over the rising market of the first half of this year.

Drayton entered the year with 25-35 per cent in liquidities but is now almost fully invested. It, too, subscribes to the basic philosophy of overseas earnings shares which it considers to be the main factor uniting the good performance of its different trusts.

Drayton Growth shares the honour with Slater Walker Capital for being the only two growth trusts to show a profit to unitholders over the past three years.

Best of the income trusts is National Westminster Income, which is a timely advertisement for the launch next week of its Extra Income Trust.

Most income trusts have come up quite well since the turn of the year, partly perhaps because the need to offer a good yield meant that they were fairly fully invested. But equally important is the way the stock market has tended to look more favourably at high-yielding shares.

Tate & Lyle is a good example of a high-yielding share that showed little inclination to fall in a bear market and yet has soared ahead this year. The traditional wisdom of a few years ago was that to gain income you had to sacrifice capital growth, but the experience of the past three years has firmly disproved this theory.

Best of the specialist trusts, and indeed, the overall top per-

former for the one-year period with a gain of 60 per cent, Hill Samuel Financial. In early stages of a bull market, financial shares tend to set the pace. Funds of investment trust shares have shown off the disappointment of the years to come back strong and it will warm a few hearts to see Sava & Prosper's Investment Trusts Units setting brightly pace for such an early start.

The rest of Hill Samuel funds should come increasingly into the picture as the year progresses, since they started the year fully invested and the managers were not, by a long way, the best of the bunch which is holding its own in the market.

Glory can be fleeting in short-term league tables, witnessed by last year's performance. Kessel Gold, pushing near the bottom of the list, has now moved to the top of the list.

Best of any trust over the years is Drayton Growth which is showing a 62 per cent profit against an average for all trusts of 23 per cent. If that makes you restless, you may want to see how you would have fared if you had invested in the fund at the start of the year and had not been troubled by the market's recent fall.

Michael Bayly

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# Invest 20% of your capital in the USA

And substantially avoid the risks of the \$ premium

Investment overseas by U.K. residents involves buying the dollar premium, which at June 25 stood at 70% - an effective exchange rate of 41.33 to the £.

In our opinion this represents an absurd degree of devaluation of the pound, making the dollar premium a high risk investment.

This also means that some 20% of such an investment is tied up unproductively in the premium.

In our opinion this is not only a high risk investment but also volatile and nil yielding.

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3. The dollar appears undervalued and the U.S. balance of payments is fundamentally sound.
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## End of a poor account

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## Patch should go one better than Bustino

From Pierre Guillot

French Racing Correspondent  
Paris, June 27

Second in the Prix du Jockey-Club three weeks ago, the English-trained *Baron* was the favourite to win the Grand Prix de St. Louis de Paris at Longchamp on Sunday. Because the race will be used for the tiercé, the runners and riders are limited to three and three-year-olds, including one filly are allowed to enter the stails. The English colt, *Bustino*, ran second to *Sagaro* in this event last year and I believe he will do it again this year. His performance. There are two more English runners, *Libra's Rib* and *Wimp* is *Quick*, who finished second and third at the English second yearling sale. *Wimp* is a son of *Ascor*. Both colts have excellent every-chance.

The Russian traveller from the Grand Prix first running of the *Grand Prix* in 1863 and it was once a popular race for cross-Channel traders, but if *Patch* is successful in his bid to buy the *Grand Prix* as a business Lemotova in 1921. He was beaten a head by *Val de l'Orne* in the Prix du Jockey-Club but he was a good runner. *Patch* is a son of *Fier*, *Monde Soyenne*, *Vicom*, and *Cloven* all of whom reappeared him on Sunday.

*Patch* is the 13th on the

[illegible]

24-0470 Mende Saux (R. Gibe),  
-1 Avance (Mrs H. Haussmann)  
-03 Principlum (N. B. Hunt),  
21-220 Crocello (Mrs E. Lyon), J.  
-101 Haly (Marguerite de Murgo),  
21-220 Haly (Marguerite de Murgo),

[illegible][illegible]

**Court Chad m**  
**three Waldron**  
by Jim Snow  
Jackery and the most sought-after sires, will be in short supply today with five meetings in England. Such as Figgott, Durr, Duddery, and Mercer, over in Ireland for the Sweeps Derby. The English Derby's main event, the 1,000 Queen Elizabeth Handicap, lies between Court Chad, Anzozel Iau, both three-year-olds, and Ian Salding's five-year-old.

Philip Waldron, who rides for Chas. Waldron, may also win the factory Stakes (2:01) on Chas. Waldron's (3:30) at Salisbury. Waldron's (3:30) over running earned first time at Salisbury, finished fourth to Hayloft (a winner yesterday at Salisbury) but less than a mile. Chas. Waldron was fourth.

the Epsom Derby meeting to  
the extremely useful American  
colt, and the modest Philip-  
paulson's three months have all

[illegible]

ALSO RAN: 12-2 Tarkenton, 10-1  
John Hov (4th) 7-1 B. H. Hov

[illegible][illegible]

# be one of the winners

run well on their last appearances, and perhaps on their recent form. The first of these is **Outrage**, a winner at Goodwood and Wolverhampton before he defeated a short head last week in the **Marion Cross**. **Scobie Bready's** in the balance are the selections for the **Bankham Handicap** (4.40) and the **Widham Stakes** (4.30), respectively.

At **Chepstow**, **Pater Walwyn's** former first jockey, **Duncan Keith**, was training with no little success. **Winchester**, built an excellent chance of winning the **Mild Hamorham Club's Handicap** (2.45) this **Chaplin**. The three-year-old has been second and fourth at **Doncaster** and **Edinburgh** and since those defeats he was bought for 1,350 guineas after a comfortable victory in a selling race at **Kempston**.

Something to **Hilde**, a six-year-old mare, has a racecourse record of five times at **Chepstow**, four weeks ago. **Mrs Rosemary Lomas** found her difficult to train, but in spite of the risk of injury, she won her race well. A second winner may come her way in the **Widham Stakes**, now claiming **John A. Whitham**, now claiming

[illegible]

OTE: Win. 10p P. Walwyn.  
Loun. 21. 10p P. Walwyn.  
OTE: DOUBLE: French Princess.  
Murder, 21.20. Treble. Harpoff.  
Tina. Fasted. 21.40. Jackpott.







